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Celebrity Buzz

Miller, Getty reportedly back together

pg 23

Going Green

Province's spirit bear walks a thin line

pg 12

VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

Card statements reveal if you won Games lottery

OLYMPICS People who won the lottery for tickets to the 2010 Olympic Games will start seeing charges on their credit-card statements today, even though the Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) won't officially be notifying people until Dec. 10.

Because of high demand, around 120 of 170 events were allocated by lottery, including the opening and closing ceremonies and men's hockey.

Any unsold tickets will go on sale between Dec. 12 to 22. Buyers who placed their orders in the initial request period, which closed Nov. 7, will be given priority.

"We share in (Canadians') excitement as they wait to find out what tickets they have received," said Caley Denton, vice-president of ticketing and consumer marketing for VANOC.

"This will really drive home the realization … that we are now only about 14 months away from (the Olympics)." **KRISTEN THOMPSON /METRO VANCOUVER**

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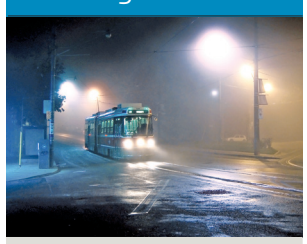

Canadian pic clicks with jury

Joel Charlebois' photo, Midnight Tram to Humber, beat out 50,000 entries from around the world to win the top prize, pg 19

Calendar sales **Hope moves out of shadows**

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Joe Mangatal sells the Hope in Shadows calendar at the Granville Island Public Market in Vancouver yesterday. Organizers are hoping a trial program will help women vendors feel more comfortable selling the calendar indoors rather than on the streets. **Story, page 4**

2 boys killed on Hwy. 1

Family members critically hurt after broken van rear-ended

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

Two young boys are dead, and their brother and two elderly family members are in critical condition after a three-car accident on Highway 1 in Coquitlam, police said yesterday.

The boys were in the back of a minivan that had broken down on the left side of the high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane on Saturday morning, when a BMW rear-ended the van.

That car spun out of control and was hit by a Toyota.

"The (children), aged six, eight and nine, were taken to B.C. Children's Hospital," said RCMP Cpl. Peter Thiessen.

The six- and nine-year old boys died in hospital, while their eight-year-old brother is being treated for life-threatening injuries.

The other people in the van, the victims' one-year-old brother, their 40-year-old mother and three other female family members, 49, 74 and 76, were taken to Royal Columbian hospital.

"Two of the vehicles had a single occupant yet were travelling in the HOV lane reserved for two or more passengers."
RCMP Cpl. Peter Thiessen

The 35-year-old female driver of the Toyota had minor injuries, and the 26-year-old male driver of the BMW was unhurt.

"We are unable to confirm what the contributing factors to the motor-vehicle incident are at this point, although drugs and alcohol have been ruled out," Thiessen said.

It was rainy and visibility was poor at the time of the accident.

"However, two of the vehicles had a single occupant yet were travelling in the HOV lane reserved for two or more passengers."

Police are asking anyone who witnessed the accident to come forward.

Tories retreat as NDP, Grits near coalition

OTTAWA A day of high-stakes political intrigue set the scene for a week in which Stephen Harper's Conservatives will fight to retain their grip on power.

Nothing short of a fresh economic statement with new measures to help Canadians cope with the recession appears likely to dissuade federal opposition parties from defeating the Conservative minority and trying to form a coalition government next week.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty yesterday continued a full-scale retreat from his Nov. 27 economic statement, with a promise of economic-stimulus measures in an early budget on Jan. 27. And for the first time, he hinted strongly that Ottawa would bail out Canada's struggling Big Three automakers.

But the Liberals and New Democrats said the latest concessions from the Conservatives are not enough to derail their move — with support from the Bloc Québécois — to defeat the Tory minority and take power with a coalition cabinet.

Since last week, the Liberals, NDP and BQ have been involved in closed-door talks aimed at preparing a coalition government to replace Harper's regime.

There are questions whether the Liberals could act cohesively to join in an attempt to oust Harper. The main issue surrounds which Liberal would head the coalition and potentially become prime minister.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE COVERAGE PAGE 6

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6338 Fraser Street

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6596 Victoria Drive

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Vancouver sees surge in doctors, nurse practitioners
Almost 250 new doctors and nurse practitioners have relocated to the Vancouver health region this year, according to B.C.'s health minister. Among the 220 doctors are general practitioners and specialists in anesthesia, psychiatry, internal medicine, orthopedics and gynecology. METRO VANCOUVER

Local

$35,000 bottle of cognac on sale today

A $35,000 limited-edition bottle of Remy Martin Louis XIII Black Pearl cognac goes on sale today at the B.C. Liquor Store at 39th and Cambie Streets. B.C. is the first provincial liquor store in Canada to sell the rare cognac, which is the most expensive alcoholic beverage ever sold in a B.C. Liquor Store. METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

CORRECTION Local beermaker Dead Frog Brewery is being sued by Sleeman Breweries over the trademark of Dead Frog's clear-glass bottles. Lawyer Christopher Wilson said, "Dead Frog's defence asserts that Sleeman does not have a monopoly on clear-glass beer bottles, and that in any event, the public is not likely to be confused because of Dead Frog's prominent name, slogans and frog logo." METRO VANCOUVER

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Read Why Guidy Mamann says immigration law could become less fair at **metronews.ca/immigration**.

Lotteries

Friday, Nov. 28
Lotto Super 7: 6, 9, 16, 17, 27, 29 & 38 Bonus 12
Extra: 29, 58, 63, 96
Saturday, Nov. 29
Lotto 6/49: 9, 12, 16, 26, 30 & 37 Bonus 27
BC 49: 11, 12, 13, 45, 47 & 49 Bonus 25
Extra: 45, 52, 63, 84
These results are not official.

Only rally at play 'positive'

U.S. anti-gay church group a no-show at Laramie Project

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

The outpouring of support shown by activists outside Havana Restaurant in defence of a play about a gay man's murder is a testament to Vancouver's tolerance and liberalism, the restaurant's manager said yesterday.

On Friday, around 200 people rallied outside Havana Restaurant on Commercial Drive in support of that night's showing of the Laramie Project, a play based on the murder of a gay American student.

"It was a really peaceful rally," said Gina Ness. "It's so great for the community to really get behind something that's positive."

Members of an anti-gay American church group, the Westboro Baptist Church, had threatened to come to Vancouver to protest that night's show.

They never arrived, and it's unclear if they were refused at the border or chose not to come.

Ness said the group's plan to spread anti-gay sentiments and hatred backfired, adding that people lined both sides of Commercial Drive in the rain holding placards and rainbow flags while cars honked in support.

"It shows a lot about the diversity in the city and the acceptance (we have) for how each person lives. It's a really positive thing."

Dates

- The Laramie Project runs until Dec. 6 at the Havana.

ShareYourViews
vancouverletters@metronews.ca

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Havana Restaurant manager Gina Ness, seen outside the café on Commercial Drive yesterday, says the rally was "peaceful."

24-hr care sought for AIDS victims

FUNDS The plight of Vancouver's poorest AIDS victims is undermined by homelessness and drug addiction and until more 24-hour care is available, the drug and homeless crisis will continue, said one advocate for people with AIDS.

"While British Columbia is a world leader in HIV/AIDS treatment, the care is not available to many who most need it," said Maxine Davis, executive director of the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation.

Davis said the Dr. Peter Centre Residence, which has 24 suites, is the only HIV/AIDS 24-hour care residence in the province, and the foundation is asking for funding to build another 24-suite residence in the Downtown Eastside.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

DEATH A 49-year-old Langley man died when his 1984 Pontiac Firebird drove off a government dock into the Fraser River east of the Albion Ferry. The body was identified as Roger Cloutier. METRO VANCOUVER

A roasting for Mayor Sullivan

Outgoing mayor Sam Sullivan will be roasted and toasted today during a Vancouver Board of Trade luncheon at the Westin Bayshore. Roasters will include friends and rivals from Sullivan's 15 years in public life. METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

STABBING A 20-year-old man and a 17-year-old girl were injured during a stabbing at a party Friday night in Maple Ridge. The girl was treated at the scene. The man was taken to Ridge Meadows Hospital with serious knife wounds. RCMP said the suspect was known to the victims.

BLAZE Two garages were set on fire in East Vancouver on Saturday morning. The first fire started at 3 a.m. in the 3400 block of Triumph Street, CBC News Online reports. A second fire was started at 3:30 a.m. in the 2700 block of Trinity Street.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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9-1-1 TIP OF THE DAY

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Hope moves indoors

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Pivot's Hope in Shadows calendar — which aims to show the positive side of one of Canada's poorest neighbourhoods — is moving indoors in a trial program to help women feel more comfortable selling the calendar.

Hope in Shadows is a micro-credit program in which community members purchase calendars for $10 and then resell them for $20. The indoor trial program included a one-week stint that ended yesterday inside the Granville Island Public Market.

Carolyn Wong, project coordinator, said many of the calendar's top sellers are men, and that some women don't feel safe hawking them on street corners.

"I really like it, because it's something you can count on to do every year," said Joe Mangatal, 46, who was selling calendars at the market yesterday with her partner Russ. "It makes some money, some serious money. And you get to represent the Downtown Eastside … A lot of people see the Downtown Eastside as all druggies and bums — and we're not. There are a lot of families and people who care about each other."

"A lot of people see the Downtown Eastside as all druggies and bums — and we're not."
Joe Mangatal

For the past four years, the pair have sold the calendars outside the Chapters bookstore at Broadway and Granville streets. Last year they sold more than 400 calendars. This year, they are aiming for 1,000 and hope to purchase a car with the money.

Wong said future indoor-sales opportunities include two days next week at Regent College at the University of B.C., as well as two days at a medical student conference.

ShareYourViews
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Vancouver salutes AC/DC

Sold-out show didn't disappoint fans

ROB MCMAHON
for Metro Vancouver

AC/DC's Vancouver show — especially its raucous second half — highlighted everything fans could ask for.

The Aussie legends filled sold-out GM Place with Angus Young's crunching riffs and Brian Johnson's howls. A fire-spewing train, giant blow-up doll and row of cannons all appeared to the delight of a crowd illuminated by hundreds of LED-lit devil horns.

The band covered the hits: Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap, You Shook Me All Night Long, T.N.T. and Highway to Hell led the audience to fist-pumping lunacy.

For the show's first half, the rockers seemed very well behaved, given expectations for sloppy excess: A sprinkling of news songs; Young's patented riff-strut a little too smooth; Johnson's pageboy cap-adjustments all on point. Then came The Jack, during which Young performed a striptease better suited to an appearance on Ellen DeGeneres.

But suddenly, something snapped. The giant screens flanking the stage highlighted a crazy gleam in Johnson's eye, and suddenly he was streaking across the stage, riffing like a madman, running and jumping and spinning on the floor, sweat flattening his hair. Young came alive, too, jumping and swinging from a giant bell during Hell's Bells and screeching like a demon for Whole Lotta Rosie. A tranced-out, 10-minute guitar solo, Johnson's fingers racing across his lightning bolt-shaped frets, produced a sense of relief: Thank the devil, the boys are still dangerous.

Brian Johnson, left, and Angus Young of AC/DC.

KEVIN MAZUR/GETTY IMAGES

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Foster mother guilty in manslaughter case

An Edmonton foster mother was found guilty of manslaughter in the death of a three-year-old boy in her care on Saturday. The 34-year-old woman, who cannot be identified, was charged with second-degree murder after the child died in January 2007 of brain injuries. **SOURCE: CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada

Arts remain strong

Arts groups across Canada are reporting strong ticket sales for the holiday season, despite fears of an economic recession. The Canadian Opera Company, Theatre Calgary and Ballet Jorgen are just a few of the organizations saying that sales are on par or stronger than previous years. Sales at the National Ballet of Canada, after taking a hit in the fall, have rebounded, with Nutcracker tickets outselling last year's show. SOURCE: CBC NEWS ONLINE

Coalition would take 'longer term' approach, Layton says

Conservatives record secret NDP conference call, release transcript

The New Democrats and Liberals are laying the groundwork for a coalition government that plans to be in power for a "longer term, not short term," NDP Leader Jack Layton says.

"What we really want is just to get Harper out ... it's going to be a hell of a lot better for everything we believe in," Layton told NDP MPs during a conference call Saturday.

A transcript of the conference call was released yesterday by the Conservatives, who were able to eavesdrop as Layton briefed his caucus members.

Layton says he has been in touch with Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion and Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe "frequently, every day," as party officials huddle to hammer out the details of their partnership.

Those discussions are looking at the "mechanics of a coalition government and the form it would take, the structure of cabinet, the way in which the logistics of a coalition government with the Liberals and the New Democrats would work, the key roles, dispute resolution mechanisms, timelines," Layton said.

The NDP didn't dispute the transcript released by the Conservatives, but said the party is looking at pursuing legal action against those who secretly taped the call.

Layton said he was confident that by the end of the weekend, the three parties would have reached agreement on the "machinery of government ... and an agreement on policy program for the coalition."

And on the policy front, Layton said the party has been in "close consultation" with union leaders about "their key ideas."

"They've been providing terrific support," Layton said.

"So much of what you would have want(ed) to see, it's probably already there."

Layton also suggests that Independent MP Bill Casey (Cumberland-Colchester), who was kicked out of the Conservative caucus, is "absolutely in the game," suggesting the Nova Scotia politician might be part of the new government.

Layton has sparked controversy with some aspects of his call as he appeared to suggest that discussions with the Bloc "a long time ago" helped lay the groundwork for the opposition parties to quickly unite to confront Harper.

"This whole thing would not have happened if the moves hadn't been made with the Bloc a long time ago and locked them in early. Because, you couldn't put three people together in one or three hours. The first part was done a long time ago, I won't go into details," the NDP leader said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Details start to emerge

- Details of a Liberal-NDP coalition that would replace the minority Conservative government were being fleshed out last night, CBC News Online reported. According to CBC, the NDP would hold 25 per cent of cabinet positions, but the finance minister and the deputy prime minister would be Liberals.

Flaherty rules out U.S.-style rebate cheques

OTTAWA Canada's minority Conservative government will focus on long-term ways of stimulating the economy rather than repeating the U.S. mistake of sending out one-time tax rebate cheques, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said yesterday.

Flaherty, who announced he would present his next budget Jan. 27, 2009, said that while he preferred permanent stimulus measures such as tax cuts, Ottawa would also have to spend money helping out troubled sectors such as the auto industry.

Flaherty said that thanks to previous government measures, the economy was experiencing stimulus equivalent to 1.4 per cent of gross domestic product. That will rise to two per cent at the start of 2009 as additional tax cuts build in.

"We believe in permanent and long-term measures which we've done ... so we'll stay the course on that."
Jim Flaherty

"We believe in permanent and long-term measures which we've done ... so we'll stay the course on that," he told reporters on a conference call.

Earlier this year, the U.S. government sent out more than $100 billion US in tax-rebate cheques in a bid to reignite consumer spending.

Officials said evidence suggests that many people used the rebate money to pay down their debts rather than spending it. REUTERS

Two dead after birthday-party knife attack

STABBING A birthday party in an Oshawa, Ont., townhouse erupted in violence Saturday night, leaving two adults dead and two children injured, one critically, police said.

Another man was in critical condition.

The woman who was killed was identified as Leslie Kelly. Her sons Riley, 3, and Nate, 5, were wounded in the attack.

Ricky Kelly, Leslie's husband, was also wounded in the attack.

The attacker was identified as Gino Petralia.

When police responded, Petralia confronted them and was shot dead.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Watch neighbours and relatives react to the rampage at metronews.ca/canada

Protest **Cities for Life**

AARON HARRIS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

An unidentified man dressed as an executioner, left, prepares to lead the Cities for Life march in Toronto yesterday. Cities for Life is an annual initiative in which cities around the world speak out against the death penalty.

Calgary drivers may face car tax

REPORT After bringing in a 19.2 per cent property-tax hike over the next three years, Calgary city council will Thursday review a report that proposes a $30-per-vehicle annual ownership levy, which could bring in $25 million. METRO CANADA

News in brief

MUMBAI SERVICE The Hindu Federation of Canada held a pan-religious service in Brampton, Ont., yesterday meant to serve as both a memorial to the 183 people killed in this week's terrorist attacks in Mumbai — and a reminder that violence only begets violence.

DRUG COSTS The Newfoundland and Labrador government is considering new regulations that would lower the cost of generic prescription drugs, CBC News Online reports. While the move may benefit consumers in the short term, it could cause significant problems in the long run, including the disappearance of pharmacies in small towns, according to the Council of Independent Community Pharmacy Owners.

STRANDED Canadian tourists stranded in Bangkok because of anti-government protesters are demanding the Canadian government fly them home before the situation worsens. But a foreign affairs official urged travellers to stay put and wait out the protesters, who are trying to topple the Thai government.

HALIFAX A man was shot in his abdomen in broad daylight on a Halifax street this weekend. The 20-year-old victim was taken to hospital in serious condition. This shooting marks the third in the Nova Scotia city in less than a month. Police said it's too early to tell if the recent shooting is linked to the first two. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Italian men the most attractive, survey claims

Italians are considered the most handsome men in the world, while men who are balding and aging do not necessarily lose their looks, according to an international survey on what makes men attractive. REUTERS

World

Homemade booze kills 12 in Iran

Twelve people in southern Iran have died after drinking homemade liquor and dozens more have been blinded or are in a serious condition, health workers in the Islamic republic said in remarks published yesterday. Alcohol is banned in the Islamic country, which has enforced Islamic sharia law since its 1979 Islamic revolution. "Out of 92 who were poisoned from drinking homemade alcohol and hospitalized, 12 people died," said Farshid Abedi, head of Hormuzgan medical school. REUTERS

'We must stand together'

Zardari pleads with India not to punish Pakistan

Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari has appealed to India not to punish his country for last week's attacks in Mumbai, saying militants have the power to precipitate a war in the region, the Financial Times reported early today.

Zardari, whose wife, Benazir Bhutto, was assassinated by Islamist militants last year, warned that provocation by rogue "non-state actors" posed the danger of a return to war between the nuclear-armed neighbours.

"Even if the militants are linked to Lashkar-e-Taiba, who do you think we are fighting?" asked Zardari in an interview with the Financial Times.

"We live in troubled times where non-state actors have taken us to war before, whether it is the case of those who perpetrated (the) 9-11 (attacks on the United States) or contributed to the escalation of the situation in Iraq," said Zardari.

"Now, events in Mumbai tell us that there are ongoing efforts to carry out copycat attacks by militants. We must all stand together to fight out this menace."

ADNAN ABIDI/REUTERS

Students from different countries hold candles during a peace march in New Delhi yesterday. Hundreds of students from 25 nations participated in the march in memory of the victims of the Mumbai attacks.

Analysts say the Mumbai assaults by Islamist militants, which killed nearly 200 people, bore the hallmarks of Lashkar-e-Taiba, a Pakistan-based group blamed for previous attacks in India.

Indian officials have said most, perhaps all, of the 10 attackers who held Mumbai hostage with frenzied attacks using assault rifles and grenades came from Pakistan, a Muslim nation carved out of Hindu-majority India in 1947.

The fallout from the three-day rampage in Mumbai, India's commercial centre, has threatened to unravel India's improving ties with Pakistan and prompted the resignation of India's security minister at the weekend. REUTERS

Thai protesters ignore government demands

PROTESTS Anti-government protesters ignored a police order to end a blockade of Bangkok's main airport, which entered its seventh day today, as the country's attention shifted to a court case that may force the government to resign.

The People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD), which has occupied two airports in its campaign to topple Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat, let some planes leave the main Suvarnabhumi airport yesterday to pick up stranded tourists from other airports, but there was little other sign of compromise.

PAD members lined up for rice and soup from the back of pickup trucks as leaders launched anti-government invective from a stage outside the terminal.

Yesterday, police ordered the thousands of protesters to end the siege of Suvarnabhumi and the older Don Muang airport, a domestic hub, which left 100,000 tourists stranded.

Thousands of government supporters have rallied in the capital, the first show of strength by the Democratic Alliance Against Dictatorship (DAAD) since the PAD launched its "final battle" against Somchai last Monday.

The DAAD rally, which passed peacefully, was held ahead of a ruling in a vote fraud case that could deliver a crippling blow to the six-party coalition government. REUTERS

Economy

- The tourism and export-driven economy, already hit by global financial woes, is reeling from this latest crisis. Finance Minister Suchart Thada-Thamrongvech said growth could slow to two per cent from 4.9 per cent in 2007, the Bangkok Post reported.

Endeavour **Happy landings**

GENE BLEVINS/REUTERS

The U.S. space shuttle Endeavour deploys a parachute after touching down at Edwards Air Force Base in California yesterday. The orbiter landed after being diverted from NASA's Kennedy Space Center due to weather concerns.

Cellphones more dangerous than passengers: Study

SAFETY Cellphone calls distract drivers far more than even the chattiest passenger, causing drivers to follow too closely and miss exits, U.S. researchers reported.

Using a hands-free device does not make things better and the researchers believe they know why — passengers act as a second set of eyes, shutting up or sometimes even helping when they see the driver needs to make a manoeuvre.

Lee Strayer of the University of Utah and colleagues have found that hands-free cellphones are just as distracting. They have demonstrated that chatting on a cellphone can slow the reaction times of young adult drivers to levels seen among senior citizens, and shown that drivers using mobile telephones are as impaired as drivers who are legally drunk. REUTERS

Obama poised to appoint Hillary to state post today

CABINET U.S. president-elect Barack Obama was set to announce his national security team today, with former political rival Hillary Clinton in line to be picked as secretary of state.

Former president Bill Clinton agreed to make public the names of more than 200,000 donors to his foundation as part of a deal with Obama's transition team to clear the way for his wife to become the top U.S. diplomat.

The announcement comes amid challenges for the new president, such as ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the fate of the Guantanamo Bay prison up in the air, and foreign-policy challenges looming in Iran, North Korea, India, Pakistan, Russia, China and elsewhere.

Democratic sources said the team includes: Current Defence Secretary Robert Gates, a member of the Republican administration who would stay on under the new president; retired Marine Corps Gen. James Jones as White House national security adviser; and Susan Rice, an Obama foreign policy adviser, as UN ambassador.

Obama will choose former Justice Department official Eric Holder as attorney general, the top U.S. law enforcement office. An official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano would be homeland security chief. REUTERS

Choices uncertain

- Obama's Cabinet choices require Senate confirmation.

News in brief

KIDNAPPING Somali security forces have arrested five men for the kidnapping this week of two European journalists who are being held in the hills east of Bosasso, the local governor said yesterday. Gunmen seized the British reporter and Spanish photographer on Wednesday in the latest attack on foreigners working in Somalia.

PAKISTAN Seven people were killed early today in a suicide attack aimed at a military checkpost in northwest Pakistan's Swat Valley, military officials said. REUTERS

Pirates to free Ukrainian ship

SOMALIA Pirates and owners of a Ukrainian ship carrying 33 tanks and other military hardware have reached a deal to release the vessel, a Kenyan maritime official said yesterday.

Gunmen captured the MV Faina on Sept. 24, with its cargo of T-72 tanks, grenade launchers and ammunition, and demanded $20 million US in ransom.

"They have reached a deal but are still discussing the modalities of releasing the ship, crew and cargo," said Andrew Mwangura of the East African Seafarers' Assistance Programme.

The 20 crew members include Ukrainians, Russians and Latvians. REUTERS

Photographer ordered released from U.S. custody by Iraqi court
An Iraqi court yesterday ordered the release of a freelance photographer working for Reuters who has been held by U.S. forces since early September. The Iraqi Central Criminal Court ruled there was no evidence against Ibrahim Jassam Mohammed, and ordered that the U.S. military release him from Camp Cropper prison near Baghdad. REUTERS

Rice plans visit to Mumbai this week

POLITICS U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will travel to India on Wednesday at the request of U.S. President George W. Bush in the wake of the Mumbai attacks.

"Secretary Rice's visit to India is a further demonstration of the United States' commitment to stand in solidarity with the people of India as we all work together to hold these extremists accountable," White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said.

Rice will arrive in New Delhi on Wednesday after attending a NATO meeting tomorrow, according to the White House. She has been in contact with the foreign ministers of India and Pakistan in recent days to ease tensions between the nuclear states.

Earlier yesterday, Bush called Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to again offer U.S. support and condolences for the victims of the attacks, which claimed the lives of nearly 200 people and injured scores more.

A State Department spokesman said Rice decided to cut out meetings in Rome and a meeting of the Organization of Security and Co-operation in Europe, and go personally to India. REUTERS

Shooting

- Gunmen attacked Mumbai's top luxury hotels, its biggest railway station, a Jewish centre, and several other sites in India's financial capital on Wednesday.

Headless bodies found in Tijuana

MEXICO Nine decapitated bodies were discovered yesterday in the border city of Tijuana, a hot spot in an increasingly gruesome war between drug cartels.

The bodies, along with their removed heads, had been left in a vacant lot beside a factory, witnesses and police told reporters.

Mexico is facing spiralling drug violence, especially along its border with the United States. Cities like Tijuana, south of San Diego, are seeing horrendous levels of crime, with bodies set on fire, cut up and dumped in acid and strung over highways.

Beheadings, kidnappings and daylight shootings have become common as vicious drug cartels fight over smuggling routes into the United States.

President Felipe Calderon has sent some 40,000 troops and federal police across Mexico to try to stop the killings. REUTERS

Kony demands halt to warrant

UGANDA Fugitive rebel leader Joseph Kony told traditional elders he will not sign a final peace deal until an international arrest warrant for him is scrapped.

Riek Machar, the vice-president of south Sudan, said Kony met about 20 religious and cultural dignitaries from Uganda who tried to convince him to lay down his arms after two decades of war, which have killed more than 10,000 people and uprooted millions more. REUTERS

Left ahead in Romania vote

ROMANIA The opposition Social Democrats appeared to have won yesterday's parliamentary election, according to exit polls, reducing prospects for EU-mandated anti-corruption reforms if they succeed in forming a government.

The Social Democrat Party (PSD) tapped into fears about the impact of the global financial crisis and wealth disparities to make a late comeback after itself suffering sleaze scandals. It promised handouts and tax cuts for the poorest.

"Everybody is going to play hardball, so we see a lot of instability ahead."
Alina Mungiu-Pippidi

Two exit polls showed the PSD, heirs to Romania's communist regime overthrown in a bloody 1989 revolt, capturing around 36 per cent of the vote.

Another opposition group, the Democrat Liberal Party (PD-L), a centrist grouping linked to reformist President Traian Basescu, won 30 to 31 per cent, while Prime Minister Calin Tariceanu's Liberal Party (PNL) was third at 20 percent.

To form a government, the PSD will have to wrestle with the PD-L, which benefits from close links with the president, who nominates the prime minister under Romanian law.

Yesterday's win boosts the PSD's chances of returning to power after four years in opposition, but a coalition of the Democrats and Liberals, who have a majority together, is also possible.

"Everybody is going to play hardball so we may see a lot of instability ahead," said Alina Mungiu-Pippidi of the Romanian Academic Society.

"There is quite an important chance the PSD will get into the next government. For fighting corruption, the situation is pretty bad," she said. REUTERS

China **AIDS awareness**

JASON LEE/REUTERS

A volunteer with a a red ribbon on her face takes part in a World AIDS Day event in Beijing yesterday. There are about 700,000 cases of HIV/AIDS in China, according to official statistics.

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN A suicide bomber hit a German embassy vehicle in Kabul yesterday, killing three Afghan civilians and wounding six, in an attack claimed by the Taliban. The bomber was reportedly on foot when he attacked the embassy vehicle opposite a high school.

ENERGY With the U.S. economy in tatters, many believe they cannot afford to let money escape through the cracks in their homes, even though oil has fallen to $50 US a barrel. Across the northern U.S., contractors and home retailers report that home weatherization projects are continuing as winter nears. REUTERS

Georgia, Ukraine not yet ready to join, says NATO

BRUSSELS NATO is expected to encourage Georgia and Ukraine to pursue reforms needed to join the alliance but stop short of offering formal roadmaps at a meeting of the bloc's foreign ministers today.

At an April NATO summit held in Bucharest, France and Germany, worried about the reaction of key energy supplier Russia, blocked Membership Action Plans (MAP) — also called roadmaps — for the former Soviet states.

However, under U.S. pressure, NATO leaders promised them eventual NATO membership and to review their cases in December, though Germany's foreign minister said in an interview his position had not changed since Bucharest.

Georgia's conflict in August with Russia, and political instability in Ukraine, have since fuelled doubts. Diplomats say all NATO states, including the United States, now agree that neither country is yet ready for a formal path to membership. REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Impulse buyers unite

HineSight

Anne Hines

Today, I reveal a deep dark secret. Not about being gay. I talk about that all the time.

When I first came out, I felt compelled to tell everyone. It led to some odd conversations such as, "Well, we were discussing global warming, but that's very interesting, Anne."

I've also already owned up to having a transgendered daughter, an ex-husband and limited housekeeping skills.

What I want to confess is this. Yesterday, I … I bought … something.

Nothing illegal. And nothing kinky. Though I've often thought, "If God meant us to have interpersonal relationships, he wouldn't have given us batteries."

What I bought was … a birdbath heater.

This is the latest thing in urban wild-bird care.

A small electrical unit that keeps water from freezing so the birds can drink all winter.

I don't know what they did before this. Maybe went to Starbucks.

I know, we're not supposed to be buying more gadgets that use electricity.

I figure I'll balance my carbon footprint by unplugging something non-essential.

Not the IPod charger or the PVR, I use those. Maybe my oven.

I also realize that in these difficult economic times a birdbath heater might be considered to be a ridiculously extravagant purchase.

But there's a simple thumb for determining what falls into that category. Sensible, reasonable discretionary items are what we buy for ourselves.

It's time to come out of the closet. If you've purchased a Bread-o-Matic or Butt Master Supreme, there's likely no room left in there for you anyway.

Ridiculous and extravagant ones are what other people buy.

I had an excellent reason for buying this heater. It makes me happy.

And, frankly, anyone who says you can't buy happiness has never been to a really good shoe sale.

In fact, I say, "Impulse buyers of the world unite."

It's time to come out of the closet. If you've purchased a Bread-o-Matic or Butt Master Supreme, there's likely no room left in there for you anyway.

E-mail me the most useless, frivolous item you've purchased and I'll share your story in a future column. Proudly. Without mocking. At least not to your face.

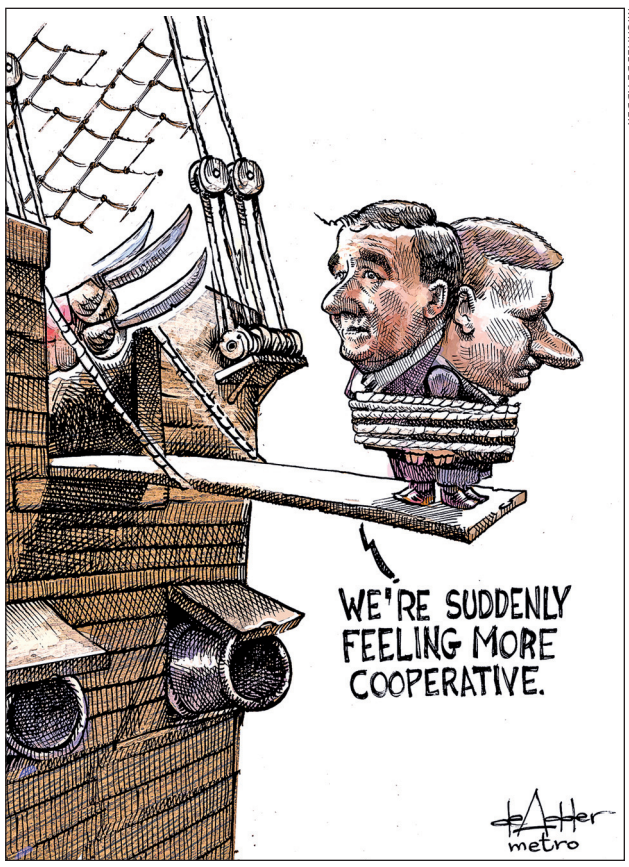
And let's remind those "I-only-buy-what's-on-the-list" shoppers that, without impulse buyers, there would be no trashy magazines to peruse at the checkout counter.

No mini flashlight/key chain/laser printers. And what would the world be without Chia Pets and fuzzy dice?

A little less tacky, sure. But, far, far less fun.

E-mail Anne at *annemhines@aol.com*.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Give city transit rage a good caning

InTransit

Derek Moscato

dmoscato@yahoo.com

Two weeks ago, while returning from school on a city bus, my six-year-old son was swung at and hit with a metal cane by an agitated woman.

His offence? Passing to her left while getting on the vehicle as she searched through her purse for bus fare.

This came moments after the same woman — irate over the late arrival of her bus ride — used the same cane to strike the side of another vehicle that was briefly held up at her transit stop.

Fortunately, the damage she inflicted in both cases was minimal.

Her cane swing was more Montgomery Burns than (Classy) Freddy Blassie.

But the incident showed that bus belligerence now competes with road rage in our city's social ugliness sweepstakes.

Common decency on city transit, it seems, is in a steady state of freefall.

Just ask Astrid Lynden, a legally blind Surrey woman who has relied on Lower Mainland transit to help her get around since 1980.

Lynden cites everything from potty-mouthed passengers, to graffiti, to bus stop litterbugs for souring the public-transit experience in 2008.

And she wants our transit bosses to address this prevalence of boorish behaviour.

"Upper management at Translink … should be made to sit down and listen to the concerns, complaints and recommendations from the riding public," she says.

She's not alone in her assessment.

On several occasions, I've seen able-bodied riders take up the so-called courtesy seats of a crowded bus while small children or seniors were forced to fend for themselves.

Meanwhile, the minority of etiquette-avoiders are also guilty of offences ranging from shouting into their cellphones to hording the seat beside them with their purse or backpack.

To its credit, TransLink is at least growing wise to some of this anti-social activity.

Last year, the agency's newsletter The Buzzer had to remind folks to be extra courteous to the elderly and those with disabilities.

But perhaps our transportation agency needs to get more creative.

Last week, it announced a new-and-improved version of its IPhone application, allowing customers to display transit maps and track down a nearest bus stop.

How nice. Maybe now they can turn their attention to a smart-phone application that spits out some rules of engagement for those about to ride the bus.

Especially before faithful but frustrated customers like Astrid Lynden give up on public transit for good.

Derek Moscato is a writer with a focus on urban issues, transportation, architecture and economics.

Letters

Harper made similar attempt at coalition in '04

Stephen Harper shows how much disdain and contempt he has for Canadians when he tries to fake outrage at opposition party attempts to work together to form a coalition government.

Let us not forget the letter he signed Sept. 9, 2004, (along with Gilles Duceppe and Jack Layton), which urged former governor general Adrienne Clarkson to consult with the opposition parties should the Liberal Paul Martin government fall. Harper asked the governor general to see if the opposition parties could form a government because they formed a majority in the House.

TREVOR HACHÉ, OTTAWA, ONT.

Everyone entitled to help when they're paying taxes

I was a bit confused with Coreen's letter from Nov. 28th. Coreen shows a huge lack of respect for newcomers while showing her worries and solidarity about the homeless issue.

I guess Coreen is not familiar with the high landing fees that new immigrants have to pay to come to this country. Once they find a job, immigrants start paying taxes, too.

If their English improves, their job position may improve, too, which means better salaries and more taxes going to the government.

I can tell that Coreen does not speak any other language in a proficiency level.

Learning a foreign language is a long and hard process.

Despite immigrants' broken English, they are mostly able to find a job. Some of those jobs are hard, dangerous or disgusting.

So why should immigrants have to pay to help the homeless and not get extra free help with their English problems?

Help for everybody.

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Going Green

Two sides of the 'pond'

The Green Guide To David Suzuki's Nature Challenge notes European pedestrian cities have less than 10 per cent of their land devoted to transportation, while North American cities devote up to 50 per cent or more of urban land to roads and parking, according to Greeniology: How To Live Well, Be Green And Make A Difference by Tanya Ha. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

Leadership is crucial

ScienceMatters

David Suzuki & Dr. Faisal Moola

It's an understatement to say that we are living in interesting times. The world seems to be undergoing a profound shift. On one hand, the looming environmental and economic crises are scaring many of us; on the other, events such as the election of the first African-American president in the U.S. are giving people hope.

We shouldn't let unrealistic expectations set us up for disappointment, but at least Barack Obama seems to have recognized that new ideas are needed to resolve the problems facing the world, and to seize the opportunities the crises present.

In a speech to the Governors' Climate Change Summit in Los Angeles on Nov. 18, the U.S. president-elect referred to climate change as the most serious threat facing America and the world, and said, "My presidency will mark a new chapter in America's leadership on climate change that will strengthen our security and create millions of new jobs in the process."

Although Obama's proposed targets don't go far enough to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, they are at least acknowledgement of the seriousness of the problem and represent a reversal of the Bush administration's attitude. His promise to implement a cap-and-trade system is a good step. Economists and scientists agree that putting a price on carbon emissions, through cap-and-trade and carbon taxes, is essential to combating catastrophic global warming.

It's a shame the top two contenders for leadership of the Liberal Party in Canada have stepped away from the idea of a carbon tax, blaming it for the party's dismal showing in the October federal election. Our governing party hasn't demonstrated great leadership either. Along with the U.S., Canada has been a laggard among industrialized nations on climate policy and action, and now it looks like we could soon be the worst of the dinosaurs.

But Obama won't be sworn in until Jan. 20, and a lot is happening now. CEOs of the big three U.S. automakers — Ford, Chrysler, and General Motors — recently flew to Washington in private jets to ask for a $25-billion US bailout from taxpayers. They've been told to come up with better plans, but those plans will be considered in early December, before Obama takes the reins. Keep in mind that current U.S. President George W. Bush overruled California's attempt to require stricter emissions standards for automobiles.

Should we have sympathy for free-market capitalists like GM vice-chair Bob Lutz, who claimed climate change is a "crock of ..." and that hybrid cars such as those made by Toyota "make no economic sense," while his company continued to produce gas-guzzlers? Meanwhile, Japanese automakers are doing OK with more fuel-efficient vehicles such as hybrids.

The U.S. and the world have a lot of catching up to do to forestall the catastrophic consequences of our outmoded economic thinking. Let's hope the new U.S. president is up to the challenge and that he helps set an example for all world leaders to follow.

Take David Suzuki's Nature Challenge and learn more at www.davidsuzuki.org.

Dr. David T. Suzuki is a Vancouver-based award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster.

IAN MCALLISTER/PACIFICWILD.ORG

The spirit bear lives only in the forests of the Pacific coast of B.C.

Prevent an un-bear-able loss: Save B.C. spirit bear

Eco-Minded

Kai Chan with Sarah Klain

As a British Columbian, wouldn't you be embarrassed if B.C.'s totem animal were driven to extinction?

The white Kermode bear, known as the spirit bear, still roams in B.C. — for now. Without adequate habitat protection, the spirit bear will follow the California grizzly bear to extinction. Logging in the Great Bear Rainforest, the forests along B.C.'s northwest coast, threatens the survival of this iconic animal.

Two years ago, various levels of government including First Nations, committed to protecting Great Bear Rainforest ecosystems (and species within them) through conservancies and ecosystem-based management (EBM). EBM promises to balance economic development with conservation, but the on-the-ground management rules continue to be debated. Sufficient spirit bear habitat has not been guaranteed.

The native people in both California and B.C. have revered and respected bears for millennia. EBM practitioners and loggers could learn from indigenous values. We can celebrate, cherish, and take pride in protecting this unique species and the ecosystems upon which they depend or we can log the forests and watch biodiversity dwindle.

Currently, forest management is ecosystem-based in name only. In the next provincial election, you can ensure that these fancy words have meaning by supporting legislation to protect species and ecosystems and the widespread implementation of strong EBM throughout B.C. The future of the spirit bear rests in our hands.

Spirit bear facts

- The spirit bear is a subspecies of the North American black bear.
- One out of every 10 Kermode bears is white — the others are black.
- In winter, they hibernate in the base of hollowed out old trees — hence the need for old-growth forests.

Kai Chan is an assistant professor and Canada Research Chair at the Institute for Resources, Environment, and Sustainability (IRES) at UBC. Sarah Klain is in an MSc program at IRES where her research focuses on assessing ecosystem services in the Great Bear Rainforest.

Feds to consult with provinces on climate

Canada's environment minister said Friday the federal government would give the country's provinces a consultative role in any negotiations with the United States on a North American pact to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

Jim Prentice said Canada intended to pursue such talks with the incoming administration of U.S. president-elect Barack Obama on a national level.

"There will be extensive consultation (with the provinces) before we ever sit down with the U.S. administration."
Jim Prentice

Even so, he said, "There will be extensive consultation (with the provinces) before we ever sit down with the U.S. administration."

Prentice made his remarks to reporters after a climate change conference at Lake Louise, Alta.

Alberta, which is looking to safeguard the interests of the carbon-intensive oilsands industry and other big emitters, has asked to play a direct role in any negotiation on North American climate change.

Emissions of carbon-based greenhouse gases are widely viewed as a main cause of global warming. Prentice declined to commit to offering any province a direct role. **REUTERS**

News in brief

TAXES Governments must do a better job of explaining environmental taxes such as charges on driving in cities or higher electricity bills or risk a public backlash, a study showed on Friday. Governments often fail to link green taxes to their goal of curbing energy use or helping a shift to renewable energies, according to Steffen Kallbekken, of the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research in Oslo. **REUTERS**

Italian-designed 'palace' to rise on Berlin site
Italian architect Francesco Stella has been chosen to design a new 552-million euro baroque-style palace with a modern interior, on the spot where Berlin's 15th-century Stadtschloss stood until it was destroyed in 1950 by East German communists. REUTERS

Business

Asian art sales drop

Half the lots in Christie's auctions of Asian contemporary and Chinese 20th-century art went unsold yesterday, reflecting the bleak economic outlook and cooling Chinese art market. Major works, which usually attract highly competitive bidding, fell short of reserve prices. REUTERS

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Microsoft-Yahoo deal is 'total fiction': Exec

Deal for Yahoo's search not ruled out

A report in the Sunday Times that Microsoft Corp. is in talks with Yahoo Inc. to buy the U.S. Internet company's online search business for $20 billion US is "total fiction," according to a key executive cited by an influential U.S. blog.

The Sunday Times, which did not cite its sources, said the proposal under discussion involves a complex transaction that would see the U.S. software giant support a new management team to take control of Yahoo.

The team would be led by ex-AOL Chairman and CEO Jonathan Miller and former Fox interactive media president Ross Levinsohn, the report said.

But the AllThingsDigital blog, affiliated with the Wall Street Journal, quoted Levinsohn as saying the report was "total fiction." Top sources at Yahoo and Microsoft also scoffed at the report, the blog said.

"(Microsoft is) interested in doing a deal on search, and we should pursue that."
Carl Icahn

Yahoo spokesman Brad Williams said: "We don't comment on rumours, and all this is is a rumour."

A Microsoft spokeswoman declined to comment.

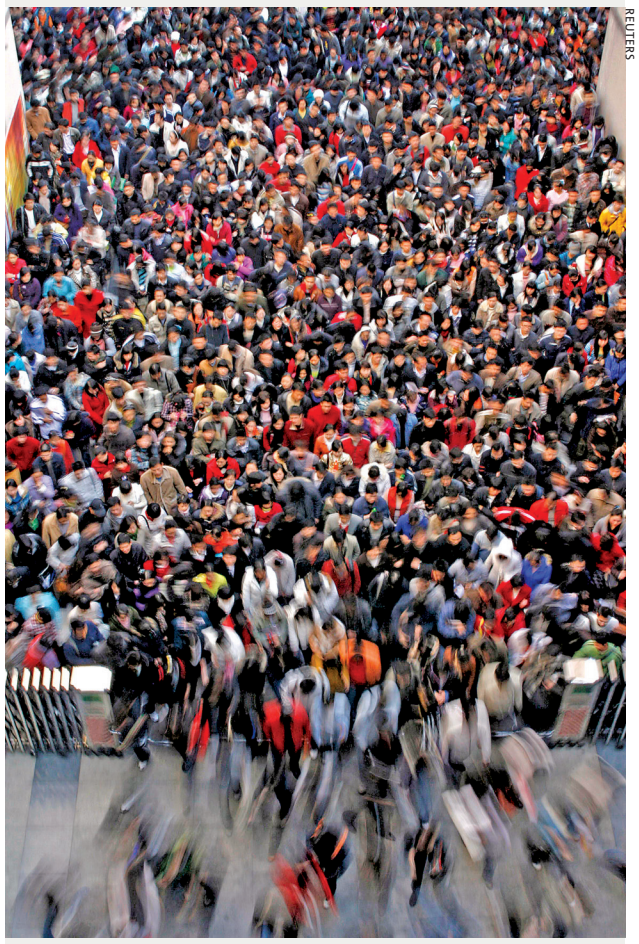
Microsoft withdrew its $47.5-billion US buyout offer for Yahoo in May after Yahoo Chief Executive Jerry Yang and his board rejected the bid as too low.

Bid speculation was sparked again earlier this month when Yang announced he was stepping down. Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer ruled a bid out at the time, but said he was "open" to talks on a deal for Yahoo's search business.

Activist investor Carl Icahn — who sits on Yahoo's board and increased his stake in the company to 5.4 per cent last week — reiterated he favoured the sale of the search business, according to an interview in the Dec. 1 edition of Barron's.

"Microsoft has said publicly that they are not interested in buying the whole company, and I believe them. But they are interested in doing a deal on search, and we should pursue that," Icahn was quoted by Barron's. REUTERS

China **Exam fever**



REUTERS

Applicants walk into a university to take part in the nationwide government-recruitment exam in Wuhan, Hubei province, yesterday. There are a record number of applicants taking the exam, with about 775,000 people writing it yesterday, Xinhua News Agency said.

Big Three should cut perks: UAW

AUTOS The Big Three U.S. automakers should tell Congress they will limit corporate pay, bonuses and severance packages in return for government loans, the president of the United Auto Workers union said yesterday.

UAW president Ron Gettelfinger told CNN carmakers only need a loan to tide them over a tough period and insisted high union wages were not the key cause of waning sales at GM, Ford and Chrysler.

Gettelfinger warned millions of jobs were at risk and said the auto industry globally was suffering from a sales downturn, not simply U.S. carmakers. REUTERS

BCE seeks fee from Teachers if no deal

TAKEOVER BCE Inc. is demanding that the Ontario Teachers' Pension Fund pay a $1.2-billion termination fee if the buyout of the company fails to go through, as expected, a newspaper reported Saturday.

Citing people familiar with the situation, the Globe and Mail said BCE is pushing to get Teachers, the lead suitor in the $34.8-billion buyout deal, to pay the huge fee should the tangled, two-year-old bid for the owner of Bell Canada fall apart before a Dec. 11 deadline.

The deal, the world's largest leveraged buyout, is on the brink of collapse after an opinion delivered by auditors that BCE would not pass a solvency test after taking on $32 billion more in debt as part of the financing. A positive opinion on solvency is required for the deal to be completed.

According to the agreement, Teachers must pay the fee, thought to be the largest of its kind, only if the pension fund's actions cause the deal to founder, the Globe reported. That would mean that BCE must prove that the fund gave the auditors, KPMG, incomplete or false information, according to legal experts, the Globe said.

Teachers strongly denies any wrongdoing but may decide to negotiate a settlement with BCE, sources told the Globe. REUTERS

Retailers slam 'exorbitantly expensive' credit-card fees

RETAIL The Retail Council of Canada is calling on the government to intervene on "exorbitantly expensive" two per cent credit-card fees imposed by companies like Visa or MasterCard.

Though this little expense is invisible, buried in the overall price of the merchandise, retailers say it takes $4.5 billion a year out of their pockets.

The card companies say they take none of the fee, which is split between the merchant and cardholder's banks. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Business in brief

AUTOS The Canadian and Ontario governments have told the Big Three automakers to submit restructuring plans by Dec. 5 if they want to receive taxpayer assistance from Canada.

OIL Saudi Arabia on Saturday cited $75 a barrel as a "fair price" for oil, the first time in years that the world's biggest exporter has identifed a target for crude prices. REUTERS

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POINTS

Extra Foods Superstore Super never cost so little. nofrills lower food prices

South Africa's Zuma pledges faster change, decent jobs

South Africa's ruling party leader Jacob Zuma has called for faster change in the light of the global crisis to create decent jobs, improve education and health, and fight against crime ahead of elections next year. REUTERS

Nikkei falls on firmer yen, profit-taking

MARKETS Japan's Nikkei share average fell 1.9 per cent yesterday, pressured by profit-taking after last week's rally, with exporters such as Toyota Motor Corp. slipping on a firmer yen.

"A rise in the yen against the euro, as well as the dollar, is hurting exporters," said Takahiko Murai, general manager of equities at Nozomi Securities.

The benchmark Nikkei shed 159.44 points to 8,352.83, having jumped 7.6 per cent the previous week.

The broader TOPIX declined 1.2 per cent to 824.88.

"Stock performance may be lacklustre this week as investors' attention will shift back to the deteriorating U.S. economy, as many economic reports are due there," said Kazuhiro Takahashi, general manager at Daiwa Securities SMBC.

"Stock performance may be lacklustre this week as investors' attention will shift back to the deteriorating U.S. economy."
Kazuhiro Takahashi

Market participants are eyeing a string of U.S. data this week, including monthly employment data on Friday.

Worries about weaker consumption in the United States made investors more pessimistic about Japanese exporters' earnings, as a big chunk of their sales comes from the U.S. market. REUTERS

Account surplus on the way down: Economists

TRADE Canada's long-running era of current account surpluses could soon come to an end as the commodity bust drags down trade flows that helped propel the country's economy for years, economists warn.

The current account surplus, a broad measure of international trade that includes goods, services, investment income and other areas, shrank to $5.6 billion on a seasonally adjusted basis, down from an upwardly revised $8.2 billion in the second quarter, Statistics Canada reported on Friday.

The third-quarter figure was higher than economists had expected, and shows that Canada is still selling more to the rest of the world than it is buying.

But in a research note, CIBC World Markets economist Krishen Rangasamy wrote that it would "likely be the last hurrah," adding that skyrocketing commodity prices have more than made up for falling export volumes over the past five quarters.

"Now that (commodity prices) have fallen back to earth, and given that the global recession does not bode well for a recovery in real exports, a current account deficit looms for upcoming quarters."
Krishen Rangasamy

"Now that (commodity prices) have come back to earth, and given that the global recession does not bode well for a recovery in real exports, a current account deficit looms for upcoming quarters," Rangasamy wrote.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Business in brief

RECOVERY Munich Re, the world's largest reinsurer, hopes fatter premiums will make 2009 more of a "normal" year after its likely failure to meet profit targets this year, said chairman Nikolaus von Bomhard. Weakness in capital markets and payouts for hurricanes Ike and Gustav means its consolidated profit target for 2008 of 2 billion euros is unlikely to be hit.

SALE Struggling Citigroup Inc. plans to sell NikkoCiti Trust and Banking Corp., its trust bank unit in Japan, as part of its global restructuring efforts in a deal that could raise up to 40 billion yen ($420 million US), Japanese media reported yesterday. An auction could be held as early as today, the Nikkei business daily said without citing any sources. REUTERS

CAREN FIROUZ/REUTERS

A woman walks past a poster for the Energy Management: Policies and Experiences Oil and Gas Conference in Tehran, Iran, yesterday. Iran's OPEC governor says the country is fully committed to the organization's supply cut agreed to in October.

2 million excess barrels of oil on market: Iran

Iran's oil minister said yesterday the oil market is estimated to be oversupplied by about two million barrels per day (bpd), and OPEC will have to decide next month in Algeria how to stabilize prices.

Gholamhossein Nozari made the comments a day after OPEC ministers met in Cairo, where they deferred a decision on a new supply cut amid signs Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies wanted more adherence to curbs put in place over the past two months.

Iran's OPEC governor, Mohammad Ali Khatibi, said Iran was fully committed to OPEC's last cut, after some OPEC delegates in Cairo said Tehran was a source of concern over compliance alongside another oil-price hawk, Venezuela.

Iran's share of the 1.5-million bpd cut agreed on in October and effective from Nov. 1 was 199,000 barrels per day.

"We observe the entire 199,000 bpd (quota cut). We are hopeful that others will do the same," Khatibi told reporters on the sidelines of an energy conference, adding compliance by other members was above 70 to 80 per cent.

"If there are other cuts, we will seriously observe that."

Iran, OPEC's second-biggest producer, pushed for a cut before the Cairo talks, but Khatibi said ministers wanted to see the November output figures before taking a decision.

Ministers from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries next meet in Algeria on Dec. 17. REUTERS

Staying in the black

- Oil prices have tumbled more than $90 US from their July record peak of $147 a barrel. Economists said Iran needs a price of at least $70 to $80 a barrel to avoid big spending cuts in next year's budget and keep its account in the black.

Thai gov't warns of tourism damage from protests

INDUSTRY Thailand, one of the world's top tourist destinations, could suffer a dramatic fall in visitors next year if the country's political crisis drags on, a deputy prime minister said on Saturday.

"The closures have severely affected the tourist industry," Deputy Prime Minister Olarn Chaipravat told reporters as anti-government protesters blockaded Bangkok's international airport for a fourth day.

"Next year, foreign tourist arrivals may fall by half."
Olarn Chaipravat

The closure of the $4-billion US Suvarnabhumi airport since late Tuesday has forced the cancellation of hundreds of flights and stranded thousands of tourists. Don Muang airport, a big domestic hub, was also shut due to protests on Thursday.

Olarn said he expected tourist arrivals to fall to 13.5 million this year, from 14.5 million last year.

"Next year, foreign tourist arrivals may fall by half and about one million people may be jobless if we don't have any measures to help them," Olarn said, giving a far gloomier prediction than some analysts.

Broker Asia Plus Securities expected arrivals to drop to 13 million in 2009. REUTERS

Japan 2008 car sales should hit 34-year low: Nikkei

AUTOS Sales of new cars in Japan are likely to skid to a 34-year low in 2008 as the economic slump takes its toll on consumer spending, the Nikkei business daily reported on Saturday.

Japan slid into its first recession in seven years in the third quarter as exports crumbled, and with industrial production and household spending also in decline, economists are warning of a longer and deeper downturn.

November sales of new automobiles excluding 660 cc mini vehicles are expected to drop by about a third from a year earlier, the Nikkei reported.

Even if December sales match the year-earlier level, sales for the year are likely to total around 3.25 million units, the lowest since 1974, the paper said.

Sales of large models and imports in particular have fallen sharply, the report said. REUTERS

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Browns lose Anderson

Cleveland Browns quarterback Derek Anderson, who was starting in place of Brady Quinn after Quinn's season was ended due to a broken finger, sprained his left leg during yesterday's 10-6 loss to the Colts and may himself be done for the season. Browns coach Romeo Crennel said third-stringer Ken Dorsey would start next week. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Burress allegedly shoots self, will reportedly be charged

The attorney for New York Giants receiver Plaxico Burress said yesterday he was advised that Burress will be charged with criminal possession of a weapon after accidentally shooting himself in the right thigh. Burress shot himself at a Manhattan nightclub Friday night and was released from a hospital early Saturday, the Giants said. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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SCOTT RINTOUL
for Metro Vancouver

The Canucks will try to snap a two-game losing streak tonight when they visit the Blue Jackets for the final time this season. Vancouver lost 4-2 in Columbus just over a month ago, thanks to a spectacular goaltending performance from Pascal Leclaire. Leclaire, however, has been displaced by rookie Steve Mason as the Jackets' No. 1 netminder for the time being.

SORRY, CORY: Though Cory Schneider played well in his NHL debut on Saturday, Curtis Sanford is expected to get the start in goal against the Blue Jackets.

MOOSE HUNTING: Forward Jason Jaffray was recalled from Manitoba yesterday, while Alexandre Bolduc was sent back down to the farm. Jaffray is currently second in Moose scoring with 12 goals and five assists in 17 games.

Taking Canadian know-how to China

Nova Scotia hockey coach finds his ticket to Vancouver with Chinese women's national team

VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

DOUG BENC/GETTY IMAGES

Paul Strople's China squad qualified for Vancouver last month.

Paul Strople's friends told him he was crazy. Moving to China to coach the country's national women's hockey team?

"They'd say, 'What are you going there for? You have everything here,'" the 41-year-old Halifax native recalls. Strople had a wife, children and a job coaching bantam AAA hockey in Nova Scotia when Chinese hockey officials came calling last summer, but he couldn't turn them down.

He had already spent the 2004-05 season behind the national team bench, but wanted to go back for a second tour to lead China to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. "It was something that had been on my mind for four years," says Strople, who fell short in his bid for the Turin Games in 2006. "I wanted the challenge to prove to myself I could get to the Olympics. That was my biggest drive."

Strople got there — and his friends finally understand. "Now, when they send me an e-mail or call ... They're saying, 'Hey, if you need a water boy, a stick boy, or an assistant, I can take time off for the Olympics,'" Strople laughs.

China punched its ticket to Vancouver in November at the final qualifier in Shanghai. Strople calls it the "biggest moment" of his coaching career, an odyssey that began in 1996 and includes stops in the Netherlands, Germany and Iceland. With Strople's wife and children often living in the Halifax area, family sacrifices have been the biggest hurdle. "When you go four months without seeing your family, it's a long haul," Strople said.

"But my wife's been very supportive of my career."

The language barrier was another major obstacle, but Strople has noticed a big difference in his second tour of duty. Although he has a full-time interpreter, he barely needs one anymore. That's because a handful of the team's star players have spent time playing professionally in Canada in recent years — helping not only their on-ice skills but also their English. "They understand me better than they understand the interpretation. Now, they're telling the interpreter, 'You don't need to translate for us.'"

Strople loves coaching and would relish an opportunity to get a job behind the bench at the university level closer to home.

His appearance at the Olympics likely won't hurt his cause.

"It could open a lot of doors," he says. "It's a great achievement for me and it will be a very big point on my resume."

Skiing **Silver for Kucera**

ANDY CLARK/REUTERS

John Kucera of Calgary celebrates his silver-medal performance following the men's Super-G World Cup alpine ski race in Lake Louise, Alta., yesterday.

Steelers put an end to Cassel's hot streak

NFL ROUNDUP

Steelers 33 Patriots 10

Ben Roethlisberger threw for 179 yards and two touchdowns on 17-of-33 completions as Pittsburgh capitalized on key second-half turnovers to crush New England, 33-10, at a rain-soaked Gillette Stadium yesterday.

Jeff Reed made four field goals for the Steelers (9-3), who reeled off 30 consecutive points in the contest for their third win in a row and fourth in five.

Matt Cassel completed just 19-of-39 passes for 169 yards but threw two interceptions and lost two fumbles in defeat.

BRONCOS 34 N.Y. JETS 17

Jay Cutler threw for 357 yards and a touchdown, leading the Denver Broncos to an important 34-17 road victory over the New York Jets.

Cutler completed 27-of-43 passes and threw an interception for the Broncos (7-5), who, with San Diego's 22-16 loss to Atlanta, sit a comfortable three games ahead of the Chargers in the AFC West with four games to play.

Denver will be able to clinch a division title next week with a win over Kansas City coupled with a San Diego loss to Oakland.

Brett Favre was unimpressive, going 23-of-43 for 247 yards and an interception, while Dustin Keller caught seven passes for 77 yards for New York.

N.Y. GIANTS 23 REDSKINS 7

Eli Manning threw for 305 yards, including a 40-yard touchdown to Amani Toomer, and Brandon Jacobs ran for another score, as the New York Giants defeated the Washington Redskins, 23-7, at FedEx Field.

Manning finished 21-of-34 passing and was picked off one time, while Jacobs rushed for 71 yards. Toomer caught five passes for 85 yards for the Giants (11-1), who have won seven straight games.

BRIAN SNYDER/REUTERS

Steelers running back Willie Parker, centre, takes off for a gain against the Patriots in Foxborough, Mass., yesterday.

PANTHERS 35 PACKERS 31

DeAngelo Williams ran for four touchdowns, including the go-ahead score with 1:30 left in the game, as the Carolina Panthers upended the Green Bay Packers 35-31.

Williams had 21 carries for 72 yards for the Panthers (9-3), who kept pace with Tampa Bay for first place in the NFC South.

Aaron Rodgers threw for 298 yards and three touchdowns on 29-of-45 completions for Green Bay (5-7), which has lost two in a row and four of five.

49ERS 10 BILLS 3

Shaun Hill threw the only touchdown of the game and the San Francisco 49ers left Buffalo with a 10-3 victory. Isaac Bruce had five catches for 67 yards and the score for the 49ers, who won for the second time in three games. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Choi wins Skins Game, Ames second

K.J. Choi holed an 11-foot birdie putt worth $270,000 US on the 18th hole yesterday to win the 26th Skins Game with $415,000. Calgary's Stephen Ames, who finished with $250,000, missed a nine-footer that would have tied the hole and forced the foursome including Phil Mickelson and Rocco Mediate into a playoff. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

NHL Modano's milestone beats Oilers

MIKE STONE/REUTERS

Mike Modano made the 1,300th point of his NHL career count last night as his third period goal beat the Edmonton Oilers 4-3.

SCOREBOARD

NFL

WEEK 13

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

San Francisco 10 Buffalo 3
Atlanta 22 San Diego 16
Baltimore 34 Cincinnati 3
Carolina 35 Green Bay 31
Denver 34 N.Y. Jets 17
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THURSDAY'S RESULTS

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Philadelphia 48 Arizona 20
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TONIGHT'S GAME

Jacksonville at Houston

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Florida 4 N.Y. Rangers 0
St. Louis 4 Atlanta 2
Dallas 4 Edmonton 3
Anaheim 4 Carolina 1

TONIGHT'S GAMES

VANCOUVER at Columbus
Nashville at Buffalo
Anaheim at Detroit
Colorado at Minnesota
Toronto at Los Angeles

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Chicago 103 Philadelphia 92
Portland 96 Detroit 85
Denver 104 Houston 94
New Jersey 117 Phoenix 109
L.A. Lakers 112 Toronto 96

Schneider impressive, Sundin rumours heat up

ToulBox

Scott Rintoul

scott.rintoul@team1040.ca

You can question the decision to play Cory Schneider in Calgary on Saturday night, but you can't quibble with the rookie's performance in his NHL debut.

Though many wanted Alain Vigneault to wait until tonight's game in Columbus to throw Schneider between the pipes, the young net minder rewarded his coach's confidence with an excellent outing in his first-ever start.

Schneider held the Flames at bay for over 39 minutes while his teammates struggled to find their game.

It took a Daymond Langkow deflection to finally beat him, but Schneider more than held up his end of the bargain with numerous outstanding saves along the way.

The young tender admitted after the game that he should have had a David Moss shot that beat him in the third to give the Flames a 2-0 lead, but to post 28 saves on the road on Hockey Night in Canada in your NHL debut certainly qualifies as a success, despite a 3-1 loss.

Schneider has definitely earned himself another start on this seven-game road trip; look for him to play either Thursday in Detroit or Friday in Minnesota.

Sundin

• Let the Mats Sundin debate begin ... again. Canucks' assistant GM Lawrence Gilman met with Sundin's agent JP Barry on Saturday, and while the bulk of the conversation centred on contract extensions for the Sedins, Gilman conceded that Sundin was discussed.

Throw in the fact that Brian Burke admitted the Leafs "don't fit the profile he [Sundin] is looking for" and speculation that Sundin could land in Vancouver is once again heating up.

• There are only eight head coaching jobs available in the CFL, so you can hardly blame Lions' defensive coordinator Mike Benevides for meeting with Argonauts' brass about the current vacancy in Toronto.

That said, Benevides might not be ready to assume the job of bench boss after just one year as a coordinator in BC. Head coaching is more about handling personalities and making shrewd hires than it is about X's and O's, and Benevides would be wise to hone his reputation at the coordinator level rather than jumping at the first opportunity that comes along.

Want to weigh in?

Send me an e-mail at scott.rintoul@team1040.ca.

Scott Rintoul is a college athlete, sports fan and broadcaster. He can be heard Monday-Friday on the TEAM 1040 from 6-9 a.m.

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Financial transparency urged at UBC
The University of British Columbia's finance department has been asked to be more transparent following the loss of $38 million in university investments. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

$10 Million for UVic
The University of Victoria officially opened its new climate-change research building. The $67-million facility will be known as the Bob Wright Centre, Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Building, named after sportfishing entrepreneur Bob Wright, who contributed $10 million to it. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Photos that make a difference

OddJobs

Pat Marston spends her workday behind the lens of her camera or at her computer, tweaking photographs using Photoshop. In that way, she's like many other professional photographers.

The big difference: Instead of posing brides or wide-angling landscapes, she points her lens at burns, surgeries and abuse scars.

As a medical photographer with the University of Alberta Hospital for the last 27 years, Marston, 57, uses her lens when anyone at the organization needs to preserve an image.

"They page us and we ask: 'When do you need us?' and they say: 'Now.'" She photographs wounds when the dressings are down for the patient's chart and to track how it's healing. She zooms in on the scars of child abuse and rape victims. She documents medical innovations and research — this is a teaching hospital — often snapping shots in the middle of surgery. She clicks her shutter at new medical equipment for the hospital's records, and takes pictures of donors shaking hands with staff for the hospital's foundation.

Growing up in Saint John, New Brunswick, Marston assumed she'd become a nurse until she got interested in art and photography in high school. She moved to Calgary after graduation and worked at the Holy Cross Hospital as a ward aid to save money to study photography at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. One day at work, she saw guy going around the emergency room with a camera.

"I thought to myself: Perfect," she recalls. She got her diploma and worked as a summer student at the University of Alberta Hospital for two years, doing medical photography.

After graduation, she set up a photography studio with her husband outside Edmonton and waited for a job at the hospital to come up. It finally did a few years later, in 1981, and she's been there ever since, working as part of a two-person crew.

Most days she has a scheduled shoot or two, but has no idea in the morning what she'll be photographing that day. When her pager goes off, she dashes up to the ward in question because it's at the right point in the surgery or a burn victim has just came in.

If her lights or other equipment fails, she has to think fast to fix the problem, because she's got just minutes to make her shot. And the pictures are challenging. Some, like the gory gunshot wounds or the dying premature babies, are hard emotionally.

More often it's technically tough. "When you're shooting deep into a cavity, you have to get the right angle without touching anything. And you're standing on a stool and someone's hanging onto your shirt so you don't fall in."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

The Lowdown

Job title: Medical photographer

Education/training: A photography diploma or degree; specialized degree from the U.K. or Europe

Best Part of the Job: "Doing work that has a purpose."

Worst Part of the Job: "The sad things: Seeing the child abuse, the accidents that were probably preventable."

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Depp as Bond actor?
Movie legend Sir Roger Moore's memoirs are set to be turned into a Hollywood biopic, with Johnny Depp reportedly slated to play the part of the James Bond actor. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Entertainment

R&B idol

Singers Aretha Franklin and Sean (Diddy) Combs are reportedly launching a new American Idol-style talent show to find R&B and hip-hop stars. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Metro Global Photo Challenge **Canadian takes top prize worldwide**

Editor-in-Chief of Metro English Canada, Dianne Rinehart presents Joel Charlebois the Nikon D700 for his winning Canadian photo entry, Midnight Tram to Humber, in the 2008 Metro Global Photo Challenge. One day later, he found out his photo beat out more than 50,000 entries from across the world to Metro newspapers, and won him a trip for two to Paris and $2,000 CDN spending cash.

Look for Joel's international interview in the next few days running in Metro newspapers around the world.

Avila beefs up resumé with Give Me The Music

HEATHER SETKA
for Metro Canada

It may be difficult to tell by looking at her, but Eva Avila loves to eat. She's tiny in the way that only 21-year-old pop stars know how to be. However, Avila's petite frame houses a voracious appetite for fine dining and its subsequent wine pairings.

"I've always appreciated food," says the Canadian Idol winner from 2006. "But food for me now is an experience."

"If I had time on my hands, I would take a sommelier course."

Culinary school is also one of Avila's backup plans. That is if this whole stardom thing falls through. Although with her record to date of hit singles, a 2007 Juno nomination and a recently released sophomore album, Plan B probably won't be necessary.

The title track from her latest effort Give Me The Music peaked at 21 on Billboard's Canadian Hot 100 in mid-November. And its video — featuring a much sexier Avila changing clothes in the back of a car — sits on the MuchMusic Top 30 Countdown.

Singer Eva Avila

"It feels really gratifying," says the Gatineau-raised singer. "I worked really hard on this record." Granted more input than on her first release Somewhere Else, Avila says this time she wrote background vocals and came up with "little licks and ear candy suggestions."

Living in Toronto now, Avila says her new compilation's content reflects her personal growth since Somewhere Else. "I'm more mature, I've grown as a young woman." This is evident, she says, in songs like You Don't Say No, a "wake-up call" for women in poisonous relationships.

"I just want to make people feel emotions," Avila says. She wants to make a difference too.

Avila is now a spokesperson for At My Best. The program encourages kids to exercise, eat well and achieve emotional balance.

"I've always been a healthy person," Avila says. "I'm really proud and honoured to be associated with (At My Best)." Perhaps this new endeavor also ties in her other backup plans should her music career falter: A social worker or teacher.

But it's unlikely Avila will be weighing these options any time soon. "Let's say this album doesn't do well, I'm not going to quit," she says.

"I've always known this is what I was meant to do."

That probably means Canada will be less one sommelier for some time.

Box office

Following are the top 5 films at the North American box office for the three-day weekend beginning Nov. 28, according to studio estimates compiled yesterday:

1. **Four Christmases:** $31.7 million US
2. **Bolt:** $26.6 million
3. **Twilight:** $26.4 million
4. **Quantum of Solace:** $19.5 million
5. **Australia:** $14.8 million

REUTERS

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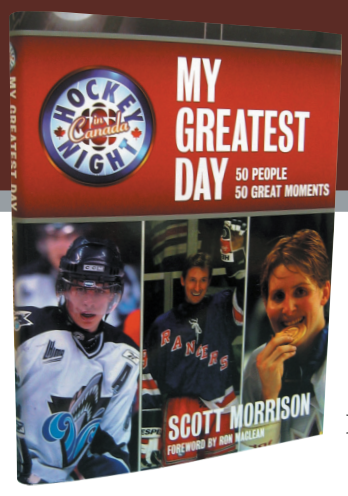

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Streep up for Mamma Mia! sequel — on one condition

Meryl Streep would love to star in a sequel to the movie Mamma Mia!, she says, "as long as you can get those fabulous boys — (co-stars) Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgård and Dominic Cooper — back!" FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Amid job cuts, TV still the focus at Geminis

The 23rd annual Gemini Awards came on the heels of weeks of job cuts in the industry, but the event didn't have the atmosphere of partying while Rome is burning. The recent cuts were on people's minds, but many attendees stuck to the purpose of the evening — celebrating the best in Canadian production.

REUTERS/MARK BLINCH

Members of the cast and writers of Cock'd Gunns pose with their award for Best Writing in a Comedy or Variety Program or Series at the 23rd Annual Gemini Awards in Toronto on Friday.

"I'm very concerned about the state of our industry, although that's all I'd like to say about that," said actor Vik Sahay (NBC's Chuck), a presenter. "This is about honouring the best we have."

The dramatic series Durham County was among the evening's multiple-award winners, picking up Geminis for best director (Holly Dale), best actor (Justin Louis) and best actress (Hélène Joy). The Englishman's Boy won best miniseries, and best actor in a miniseries (Nicholas Campbell). Cock'd Gunns, the rock 'n' roll mockumentary show, won best writing in comedy and best acting ensemble.

There were a few surprises. This Hour Has 22 Minutes won the best comedy series award for the seventh time, beating sentimental favourite and ratings powerhouse Corner Gas, now in its last season.

Heading into the evening, The Tudors and The Englishman's Boy were considered favourites, as both had won four awards in Gemini ceremonies held last month.

The show opened with a star-filled taped segment — including Brent Butt, Eric Peterson and Megan Follows — about people's disbelief that host Jason Priestley was Canadian.

"What a honour to host the Geminis," said Priestley. "And an even a bigger honour to be considered 100 per cent, unabashedly Canadian ... it's never been cooler to be Canadian in Hollywood. We are white-hot there."

"I'm very concerned about the state of our industry, although that's all I'd like to say about that. This is about honouring the best we have."
Vik Sahay

Pre-buzz had centred on the two generations of homegrown 90210 talent as former Degrassi: The Next Generation star and current 90210-er Shenae Grimes was a presenter. Priestley joked, "Everyone knows that there wouldn't have been Beverly Hills 90210, if Degrassi hadn't paved the way with poorer, less attractive kids."

Unfortunately, many of this year's winners, like Cock'd Gunns and Intelligence, have already been cancelled. In accepting his best host award for his talk show The Hour, George Stroumboulopoulos mentioned a former gig, The New Music, which was also just cancelled.

"I worked on that show for many years, so I'd like to accept this on behalf of everybody who ever worked on The New Music."

After being held in Vancouver and Regina the past two years, the Geminis returned to what's considered the country's production capital.

"Toronto is home to the year's most honoured shows, including The Fifth Estate, Murdoch Mysteries and Rent-a-Goalie," said Ron Cohen, chair of the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television. "What a perfect backdrop to celebrate the best in the country." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Entertainment in brief

FILMS Tony Manero, an unlikely drama about a serial killer obsessed with John Travolta's character from Saturday Night Fever, was awarded the Best Film prize at the 26th Turin Film Festival, which concluded on Saturday. The Brazil-Chile co-production from director Pablo Larrain also won the Italian festival's film critics' award and produced the Best Actor prize for lead Alfredo Castro. French actress Emmanuelle Devos took home the Best Actress award for her role in Fien Troch's film Unspoken. REUTERS

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Beatles' Rigby document fetches less than hoped

MUSIC A 97-year-old document that contains clues to the identity of Eleanor Rigby, the subject of one of the Beatles' best-loved songs, has sold for 115,000 pounds at auction.

The total fell well short of high estimates of around 500,000 pounds for the piece of Beatles memorabilia, sold Thursday.

The money will go to seller Annie Mawson and her charity, the Sunbeams Music Trust, which uses music to help people with special needs.

The manuscript is a salary register from Liverpool City Hospital and features the name and signature of E. Rigby, a scullery maid who has signed for her monthly wage. Her annual earnings were 14 pounds.

According to Mawson, the document was sent to her in 1990 by former Beatle Paul McCartney when she wrote to him on behalf of her charity, asking for half a million pounds.

The document offers one of the clearest clues yet as to the identity of Eleanor Rigby, the woman in the song of the same name who dies alone with no one to mourn her. McCartney has said previously the heroine of the poignant song was fictional. REUTERS

Thriller The International to open Berlin film fest

FILMS Tom Tykwer's The International, an action thriller starring Clive Owen and Naomi Watts, will open the 59th Berlin International Film Festival on Feb. 5.

Screening out of competition, the feature will be Tykwer's second Berlinale opening, following Heaven, which bowed at the 2002 event.

But unlike Heaven, which was an art-house film more along the lines of Tykwer's Winter Sleepers (1997) or The Princess and the Warrior (2000), The International marks the German director's jump into the major leagues.

The film is co-produced by Sony and Germany's Studio Babelsberg, and is Tykwer's first collaboration with a U.S. studio.

The International is also Tykwer's first all-out action movie. The conspiracy thriller follows Owen as an Interpol agent who discovers that the world's largest bank is secretly engaging in money laundering and illegal arms trading. Watts co-stars as a Manhattan assistant district attorney who joins Owen on his race around the world to bring those responsible to justice. REUTERS

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metro Do it daily.

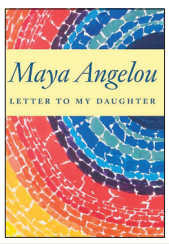
Hitched
Without a Trace star Roselyn Sanchez and actor Eric Winter were married Saturday in San Juan, Puerto Rico. **PEOPLE.COM**

Trying to escape from the past

Good **Luck**

Author: Whitney Gaskell
Publisher: Bantam Dell
Price: $14.00 (Paperback)

Can $87 million buy Lucy Parker happiness? Wrongly accused of sexually harassing one of her students, the English literature teacher at Andrews Prep is sacked from the only job she ever wanted. Adding insult to injury, she happens upon her boyfriend bedding a blonde the same day. She's dejected and bombarded with media over the school scandal, but her failings turn into fortune when she wins a multi-million dollar lottery. Winnings in hand, she escapes to Palm Beach in an attempt to assume a new identity and evade her crumbling past.

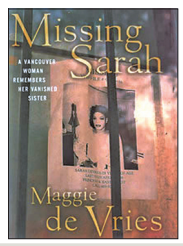


Letter to **My Daughter**

Author: Maya Angelou
Publisher: Random House
Price: $28.00 (Hardcover)

Maya Angelou never had a daughter. But in Letter to My Daughter, her first assemblage of original writing in 10 years. she explores her own life as a daughter and imparts her knowledge and experience to daughters of the world. Angelou describes intimate autobiographical events — such as the passionless first sexual encounter during which she conceived her son — and combines them with poetry to create essays. She addresses topics like spirituality, religion, friendship and fulfillment, and even pokes fun at herself.

BookPicks



Missing Sarah: **A Memoir of Loss**

Author: Maggie de Vries
Publisher: Penguin Canada
Price: $18.00 (Paperback)

Heroin-addicted prostitute Sarah de Vries' precarious lifestyle caught up with her in April 1998 when she disappeared from the streets of Vancouver. Then her DNA turned up on the pig farm of notorious B.C. serial killer Robert Pickton, and hopes for her recovery quickly faded. In Missing Sarah, the deceased's sister and author, Maggie de Vries, recounts the life and death of her troubled sibling. Using excerpts from Sarah's candid, detailed diary, Maggie pays tribute to a sister who was separated from her both by death and in life.

BRIAN COULTON/ FOR METRO CANADA

No. 1

ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

Rapper T.I.

T.I. keeps his grip on singles chart

MUSIC Rapper T.I. started a fifth nonconsecutive week at No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 with Live Your Life featuring Rihanna. But Beyoncé was nipping at his heels with two songs.

The R&B chanteuse's Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It) rocketed from No. 28 to No. 2 after selling 204,000 digital downloads, while If I Were a Boy held at No. 3. In the week ended Nov. 23, Beyoncé scored her third-straight No. 1 debut on the Billboard 200 album chart with I Am ... Sasha Fierce, which sold 482,000 copies.

T.I.'s other recent No. 1, Whatever You Like, slipped from No. 2 to No. 4. Katy Perry's Hot N Cold was down one rung to No. 5,

REUTERS

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Tenor Placido Domingo sings poems by Pope John Paul

MUSIC Tenor Placido Domingo has unveiled a new album of songs based on the poems of Pope John Paul II, saying he was certain the late pontiff was a saintly man.

In Infinite Love, a CD he presented at the Vatican, the Spanish-born Domingo sings duets with Josh Groban, Andrea Bocelli, Vanessa Williams and Katherine Jenkins as well as with his son, Placido Domingo Jr.

The songs in English, Spanish and Italian are based on poems the Polish pope wrote before his election in 1978, and were put to music by various composers.

"I am sure he will be a saint soon," Domingo, who met the late pope several times, told a news conference at the Vatican.

In May, 2005, Pope Benedict put John Paul on the fast track by dispensing with church rules that normally impose a five-year waiting period after a candidate's death before the procedure that leads to sainthood can even start.

The first phase of the process for his beatification, the last step before sainthood, is now nearly complete. Church officials say they have found a miracle attributed to the intercession of the late pope with God.

REUTERS

MAX ROSSI/REUTERS

Placido Domingo appears at the Vatican to unveil his CD.

Union developing new show
Gabrielle Union and X-Files writer/producer Frank Spotnitz are reteaming to develop a new series for NBC. Union will star as a detective who must race to save someone's life before it's too late. **EW.COM**

MTV marks decade-long AIDS awareness campaign

TELEVISION MTV marks the 10th anniversary of its AIDS awareness campaign this year with an hour-long documentary by U.S. singer and Destiny's Child founding member Kelly Rowland.

The music channel launched MTV Staying Alive in 1998.

REUTERS

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Auto pains may drive TV pains

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

HAVE YOU DRIVEN A FORD LATELY? NO, SERIOUSLY. The imminent implosion of the U.S. car industry apparently hinges on a $25 billion U.S. bailout they've requested from the government, and the way public opinion is blowing, giving it to them might go down in history with the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act and prohibition as the most unpopular piece of legislation ever.

(Don't you just love saying Smoot-Hawley? I know I do. I try to work it into conversations at least once a week.)

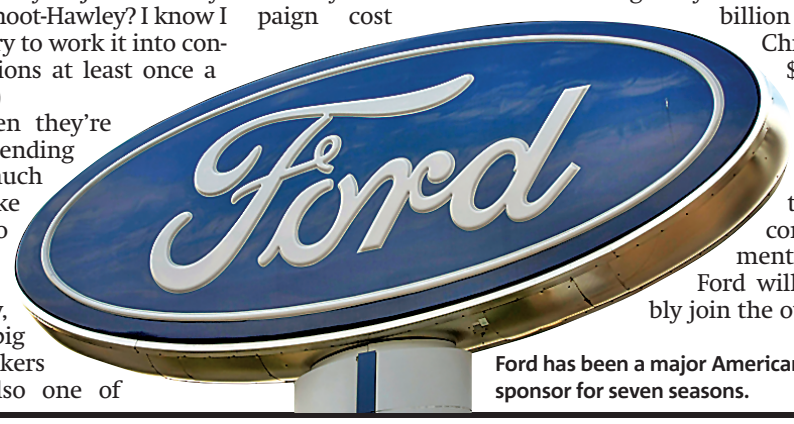
When they're not spending too much to make cars no one wants to buy, the big carmakers are also one of the biggest segments of the advertising market, paying for campaigns on primetime TV and in practically every magazine on the newsstands. Ford in particular has been a major sponsor of American Idol over seven seasons of the show, creating bespoke commercials for the show and branding itself all over the show's website.

I wasn't aware how much money the company had spent on their Idol partnership until I read an article last week in Cable & Broadcasting magazine on their dogged determination to maintain the relationship despite withering economic conditions.

Last year's Ford Idol campaign cost $78 million dollars, a substantial chunk of the $328.5 billion and Chrysler's $750 million. Despite their commitment to Idol, Ford will probably join the other automakers next year in cutting their budgets to make it look like they're serious people who can be trusted with $25 billion of public money — stepping up the trimming of advertising buy-ins, as well as other economies like replacing the single malt and champagne on the corporate jet with Red Bull and juice packs.

If the government bailout doesn't happen, however, Idol could find itself losing a major sponsor mid-season, as viewers tune in to find that Idol moments are being brought to you by pizza pops, and that the car part of the winner's prize package has been replaced by a George Foreman Grill.

"If the government bailout doesn't happen, however, Idol could find itself losing a major sponsor mid-season ... "



Ford has been a major American Idol sponsor for seven seasons.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 12/1/08	251	308	3 CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragon's Den (N) (CC)		The Border "Double Dealing"		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 JOY	E! News	The Insider	Name Is Earl	How I Met	How I Met	Worst Week	(:01) Boston Legal "Juiced"		News (N)
	254	-	8 M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	Shrek	Corner Gas	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		CSI: Miami (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	10 OMNI	Scrubs (CC)	According-Jim	Stargate SG-1 "Hathor" (CC)		One Tree Hill (CC)		The Daily	Perspectives	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Prison Break (N) (PA) (CC)		Heroes "The Eclipse - Part II"		My Own Worst Enemy (N)		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Instant Star	TMZ (N) (CC)	Sarah Connor Chronicles		Two/Half Men	Samantha	(:01) The Mentalist (N) (CC)		News (CC)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Chuck (N) (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		Fashion Cares	Less-Kind	EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Worst Week	CSI: Miami (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Chuck (N) (CC)		Heroes "The Eclipse - Part II"		My Own Worst Enemy (N)		News (N)
	602	568	19 W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	How Clean	House	Love It or List It (N)		Confidential	Kim	House
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Shrek	Grinch Stole	Samantha	Samantha	(:01) Boston Legal "Juiced"		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Youngblood ★★ (1986, Drama) Rob Lowe, Cynthia Gibb.				King	Still Standing	Scrubs (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	Antiques	Antiques Roadshow (CC)		Chihuly in the Hotshop Artists and gaffers produce works of glass art. (CC)				
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Sarah Connor Chronicles		Prison Break (N) (PA) (CC)		News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	Change Your Brain, Change		Change Your Brain, Change Your Life (CC)			The Brain Fitness Program			Brain Fitness
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	Cheers (CC)	Half & Half	The Insider	Entertainment	Paid Program
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	37 WPX	CW11 News at Ten (N) (CC)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	According-Jim	Frasier (CC)	Odd Couple
	199	311	76 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		Cold Case (N)	(9:52) The Unit	Late Late Show	
news	502	390	26 NW	Tipping Point (N) (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Tipping Point (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Columbus Blue Jackets. (Subject to Blackout)						Sportsnet	Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	NFL Football: Jaguars at Texans			SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		Motoring 2009	Nationwide Series Awards		SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Departures (CC)		Pilot Guides "Ultimate China"		Don't Forget Your Passport		The Academy (CC)		Departures
	410	403	54 SCR	WWE Monday Night Raw		(:15) 24/7		WWE Monday Night Raw (CC)				Cabby Unlimit
	417	406	55 SC	Barrett-Jackson		Car Crazy	Pass Time	SuperCars	SuperCars	Car	Car	Auctions
	416	409	144 GLF	(6:00) Fútbol de España		Gol TV News		Ole: La Liga		Paid Program	Kings Club	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Imp.	Malcolm-Mid.	Fresh Prince	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Santa Claus	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	American Dad	Chicken	Life's a Zoo
	557	541	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	56 TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Beren. Bears	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Undersea	Landscape	History of Britain (CC)		Museum Maestros (CC)		School of Secrets (CC)		Haida Art
	575	583	20 CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Gone Country	Gone Country	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith
	570	580	24 MM	MuchNews	NewMusic	MuchVibe (CC)		You Can Dance		Dance	TBA	MuchVibe
	600	564	29 H&G	Income Prop.	House	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Property	Marriage	Income Prop.	My First Place	Home to Stay
	615	520	31 A&E	The First 48 Double homicide.		The First 48 (CC)		Intervention "Mike and Jenny"		Intervention "Asa" (CC)		The First 48
	628	584	32 SPKE	(6:00) Training Day ★★★ (2001) Scott Glenn			MANswers	CSI: NY (CC)		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Deep Space 9
	521	560	34 TLC	17 Kids-Count	17 Kids-Count	Little People	Little People	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	17 Kids-Count	17 Kids-Count	Little People
	616	522	39 SHO	Love-Death	Love-Death	Painkiller Jane (CC)		Kenny-Spenny	Rent-A-Goalie	Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	The Office
	620	523	40 BVO	Dance Atlantic	Dance Me	Law & Order "Collision"		Without a Trace "Revelations"		In the Gloaming ★★★ (1997) Glenn Close.		
	601	562	41 SLC	Project Runway		Til Debt-Part	Newlywed	Beautiful	Party Mamas	Project Runway		Trading Sp
	520	505	42 DIS	Canada's Worst Driver (N)		Daily Planet (CC)		Dirty Jobs		Canada's Worst Driver (CC)		MythBusters
	522	506	44 HIS	NCIS "Hometown Hero"		Battle 360 (CC)		Underworld Histories (CC)		NCIS "SWAK" (CC)		Crime Stories
	627	528	45 SPC	Eureka (CC)		Stargate SG-1 "Bloodlines"		Lost (CC)		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Star Trek
	294	650	47 TBS	Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Cheech & Chong: Roasted		Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Saving Silverman ★ (2001) Jason Biggs. (CC)		
	619	525	48 TROP	TV Made	Very Bad Men (N) (CC)		Whatever	Make	TV Made	Planet Soap	Reality	Final 24 (CC)
	603	561	52 FN	Kitchen Nightmares (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Challenge (CC)		Good Eats	Ace of Cakes	Nightmares
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Larry the Cable Guy: Morning		Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	Stargate Atlantis (CC)		Californication	Tracey Ullman	Brotherhood (N) (CC)		Dragon Wars ★ (2007) Jason Behr. (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Hills (N)	After Show	MTV Live	MTV News	Dance Life	The Hills	The Hills	After Show	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Tuscany		Mysterious Ways (CC)		Prime Minister	May-Dec.	McLeod's Daughters (CC)		Paid Program
	-	-	109 MUL	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	It Will Be Difficult to Love		Marimar		Pinoy: That's Entertainment		Patrol World

critics' corner

Chuck
It seems Chuck (Zachary Levi) is still reeling from the revelation about Jill and is sent on a mission to take his mind off it. Meanwhile, Casey (Adam Baldwin) is shocked when he discovers that his sensei, Ty Bennett (Carl Lumbly), is now one of the most wanted rogue agents. And Captain Awesome's (Ryan McPartlin) parents, Honey and Woody (guest stars Morgan Fairchild and Bruce Boxleitner), visit to help him and Ellie (Sarah Lancaster) plan their wedding. 8 PM on NBC, CITY

McLeod's Daughters
A bull hired by the women of Drovers Run is poisoned by a weed, and Ashleigh (Sam Healy) offers to drive Grace (Abi Tucker) to get medicine. But she has a hidden agenda: making them late so the bull will die and put Drovers in debt. They have an accident, and Ashleigh begins to have second thoughts about her plan. Marcus and Heath (Matt Passmore, Sandy Winton) find themselves in competition to rescue Grace in the new episode "My Enemy My Friend." 6 PM on V

In brief

TELEVISION A journalist and his TV crew were assaulted while reporting on AIDS in Central China. After interviewing several people on Thursday, the Belgian journaland his production team from Flemish public television VRT were beaten and robbed of cash and equipment by 12 men recruited by local authorities, a VRT spokesperson said. **REUTERS**

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt

Parisian designer Sonia Rykiel and her daughter Nathalie reflect on 40 years in fashion, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle.

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LaBeouf named a hunk
Actors Shia LaBeouf, Zac Efron and Robert Pattinson have been named among the Top 10 hunks of 2008 on a list compiled by website ETonline. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Celebrity Buzz

Ryder's borrowed diamonds missing

GOSSIP Actress Winona Ryder is at the centre of a new controversy after reportedly losing $125,000 US worth of borrowed Bulgari diamonds loaned to her for an awards ceremony appearance in Spain, imdb.com reports.

Ryder had been given a diamond-encrusted bracelet and ring to wear to a Marie Claire magazine party in Madrid last week. She reported the items missing after allegedly handing them in to her hotel's front desk in an envelope to be kept in the venue's safe.

But according to Voici magazine, the hotel bosses have not yet been able to locate surveillance footage to prove Ryder's claims — and Bulgari executives have now asked police to investigate.

A spokesperson for Ryder, who was arrested in 2001 for failing to pay for goods taken from Beverly Hills store Saks Fifth Avenue, has yet to respond to requests for comment. Bulgari representatives have refused to address the reports or confirm the disappearance of the jewels.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Female models 'mean,' Osbourne says

OPINION Kelly Osbourne says female models are "jealous and mean," femalefirst.co.uk reports. The reality TV star claims almost all the working models she has met have been nasty and she can't stand to be around them.

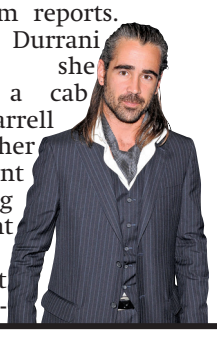
"Most female models I've come across in my life are very jealous and mean. God forbid you eat anything in front of them — they look like they want to kill you! They're just stupid," Osbourne reportedly said.

Osbourne, who recently announced her engagement to model Luke Worrell, also revealed being in a relationship with him has clouded her opinion of the industry.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Actress alleges Farrell tried to bed her

GOSSIP Actor Colin Farrell has brushed off reports he attempted to bed a budding actress and U.S. Army reservist after meeting her at a New York club, imdb.com reports.



Sam Durrani claims she shared a cab with Farrell to her apartment following a recent night out. But she reportedly refused to succumb to his charms.

"He's very nice, but was just being a typical guy looking for sex, so I told him I wasn't interested," she tells the New York Post.

However, a representative for Farrell has hit back at her allegations, claiming that although Farrell was present at the club on the night in question, "He does not know Sam Durrani and does not remember ever meeting her."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jovovich to wed Anderson

MARRIAGE Actress Milla Jovovich is preparing to walk down the aisle for the third time, with filmmaker Paul W.S. Anderson, imdb.com reports. The couple became engaged in 2003, but parted ways before reuniting and welcoming their first child, Ever Garbo Anderson, last year. And now Jovovich is ready to make their union official, despite having two failed marriages to actor Shawn Andrews and director Luc Besson behind her.

"I'd like to organize a private ceremony," she says. "I've done Las Vegas twice and I didn't want to jinx it by doing it again."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beckinsale to keep her clothes on

CAREER Kate Beckinsale has vowed to keep her clothes on in movies because she remembers how terrible she felt as a child when her mother bared all onscreen, imdb.com reports.

Beckinsale has no plans to put her own daughter Lily through the humiliation she suffered at the hands of cruel school pals. She was taunted when her mom Judy Loe stripped for TV in Britain, when she was 10.

"The mortification of going to school! People said, 'I've seen your mother naked,'" Beckinsale recalls. "I literally had to beat up nine of them."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Amy talking separation

RELATIONSHIPS Singer Amy Winehouse has reportedly met with lawyers to discuss a separation from husband Blake Fielder-Civil, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Winehouse, who is in hospital, asked her father Mitch to organize the meeting recently, after arguing on the phone with Fielder-Civil, who was recently released from prison.

"She is finally realizing that Blake is bad for her. Amy is now taking the first steps in becoming a single woman again," a source said.

Winehouse was taken to hospital just over a week ago after suffering a seizure caused by the prescription medication she is taking, her spokesman said.

"Amy and Blake had a screaming (argument)," a friend said. "She was beside herself after the call, and she just lost it. She went out and didn't stop until she was on the floor on Sunday. If she carries on, one of these incidents will be her last."

It has been claimed Fielder-Civil, who is now in rehab, is making abusive calls to Winehouse even while she is being treated in hospital.

Winehouse recently told friends her marriage is beyond repair, reportedly telling one friend, "It's over. There's no way back for us now. It was never going to last. We were only together for sex."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Paris-Benji split upsets Nicole

GOSSIP Paris Hilton's best friend Nicole Richie is so upset by the socialite's split from Benji Madden, she's preventing him from meeting any potential new girlfriends, imdb.com reports.

The hotel heiress confirmed her breakup from the Good Charlotte rocker on Nov. 21, when she admitted the couple was "taking a break" after nine months together.

According to Madden's twin and bandmate Joel, who is also Richie's fiancé, Benji has been coping well with the split. But the same can't be said for Richie, who is reportedly doing her best to keep her future brother-in-law single until he can be reunited with Hilton.

A source, who attended a recent launch party for Good Charlotte's new Greatest Remixes album, tells the New York Post's PageSix, "(Richie) has been really possessive and stops him from talking to other girls."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sienna back with Balthazar

RELATIONSHIPS Actress Sienna Miller and actor Balthazar Getty are back together, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Miller, who said at an event earlier this month she was "single at the moment," was spotted walking her dogs and laughing with Getty in London recently.

"We drove past them and they looked very together," an onlooker said. Miller's love of partying is believed to have been to blame for her split from Getty.

"Sienna is only 26 and loves to go out," a source said. "At first Balthazar was excited by her beauty but eventually realized he should be back with his wife, and that Sienna represented a phase from another point in his life."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Klum keeps teeth

CONFESSION German supermodel Heidi Klum has kept every tooth she has ever lost, imdb.com reports. "I carry around a little bag of my teeth," Klum said during a recent appearance on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. "We don't have a tooth fairy (in Germany), so I put them in a little bag. I don't know if it's good luck, it's just a crazy thing that I do."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The Weather Network 20 YEARS
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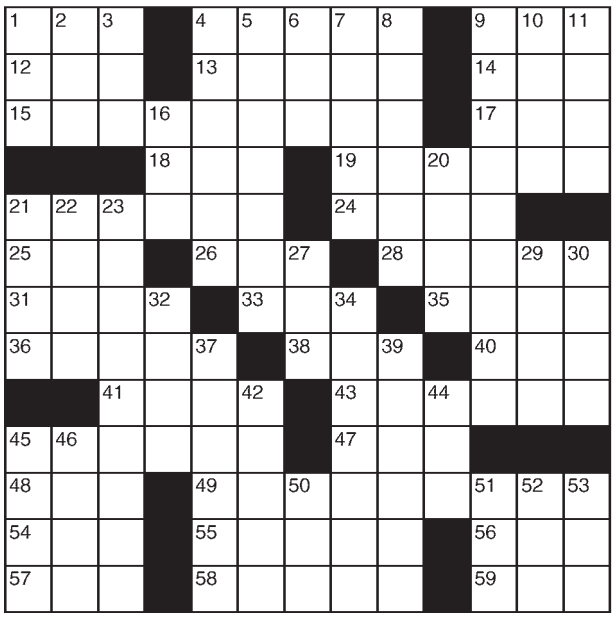
Today 70% Rain 10°/ 8°

Tuesday 40% Showers 8° / 1°

Wednesday Variable 5°/ 1°

Take Five

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: **metronews.ca/food**



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

			6		3			
	1						8	
9	7	3				5	4	6
		6	7		4	3		
3								2
		7	1		9	4		
5	3	8				6	2	7
	6						9	
			5		2			

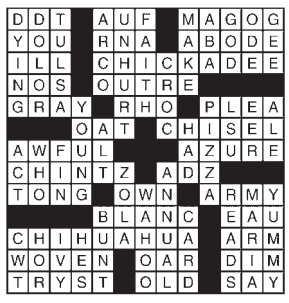
Crossword across

1 Tear
4 Seashore
9 Encyc. book
12 Historic time
13 Bother
14 Commotion
15 Item in February's mail
17 High-arc shot
18 Chiang — -shek
19 Guarantee
21 Pre-Christmas period
24 Galilee village
25 Extinct bird
26 Carte lead-in
28 Black fur
31 Afflictions
33 Omelet need
35 Story line
36 Narrow apertures
38 Dadaist Jean
40 A billion years
41 Information
43 Largest state
45 St. George's foe
47 Automobile
48 See 16-Down
49 Odin's maidens
54 Work with
55 Banishment
56 Baseballer's hat
57 Third degree?
58 Cut
59 Greek H

Crossword down

1 Gun the engine
2 401(k) alternative
3 Crony
4 Chimp's snack
5 Designate
6 Singer DiFranco
7 Megaphone-shaped
8 Zoo howlers
9 Jewelry and such
10 Smell
11 Ear part
16 With 48-Across, supplement
20 Break suddenly
21 Writer Kingsley
22 Toy shop purchase
23 Ratified
27 — Khan
29 Glimpse
30 Sicilian volcano
32 Men only
34 Large black bird
37 Ranges
39 Game participant
42 Have — to grind
44 Timetable abbr.
45 Decorate
46 Hurry
50 Actress Ullmann
51 Hockey surface
52 Dine
53 Resort

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

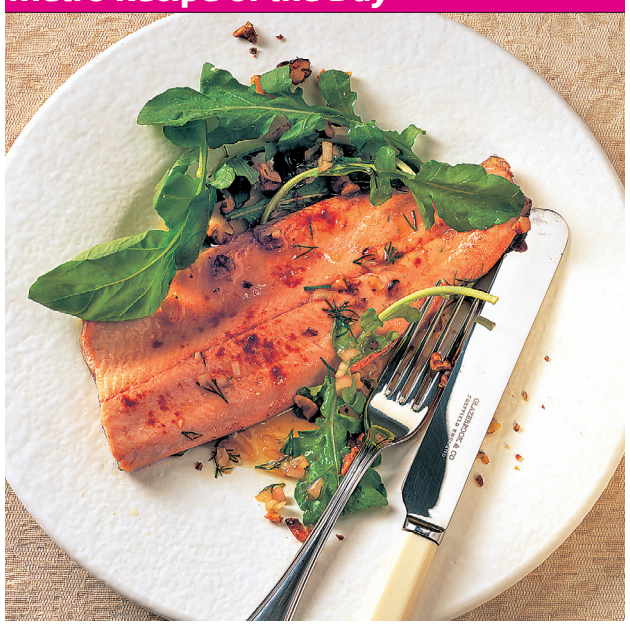


6	1	8	4	3	7	5	9	2
3	4	2	8	5	9	1	6	7
9	7	5	1	6	2	3	4	8
7	9	3	6	2	8	4	1	5
5	8	1	3	9	4	7	2	6
2	6	4	5	7	1	8	3	9
4	5	7	2	1	6	9	8	3
8	3	6	9	4	5	2	7	1
1	2	9	7	8	3	6	5	4

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Fresh Trout with Walnut Dressing

INGREDIENTS:
2 tsp (10 mL) vegetable oil
4 trout fillets, about 6oz (170 g) each
1/4 tsp (1 mL) paprika
10 walnut halves
4 1/2 oz (125 g) arugula, watercress or mixed salad leaves

DRESSING:
2 scallions
A few sprigs of fresh dill or celery leaves
2 tbsp (25 mL) spiced rice vinegar or sherry vinegar
6 tbsp (90 mL) walnut oil
Salt and black pepper

METHOD:
1. Preheat grill to high. For dressing, rinse, trim and finely chop scallions, and place in a small bowl. Rinse, dry and chop dill or celery leaves and add to bowl with vinegar, walnut oil, salt and pepper. Mix well and set aside.
2. Grease grill pan with half the vegetable oil and lay trout fillets on top, skin sides down. Season with salt and paprika. Grill fish for 5–8 minutes, on one side, until flesh is opaque in the centre and delicately brown at the edges.
3. While fillets are cooking, heat remaining vegetable oil in a small frying pan and gently fry walnuts, shaking and stirring constantly so that they colour but do not burn. Drain on paper towel, then chop roughly.
4. Rinse and dry salad leaves and arrange on four plates. Lay a fillet of trout on each. Stir dressing, spoon over the fish, and scatter walnuts on top.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Walk away from a dangerous situation. A pest considers telling the truth. Prepare to experience a tremendous power surge.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A neglected partner could be seeking comfort elsewhere. A dream of a better relationship will come true. A dramatic friend screams for attention.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Someone has an amusing request to make. Expect a slowdown on the way home. A spiritual experience results from lessons that are learned.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Expect a normally smug person to become nervous. A meeting leads to greater information sharing. Divine intervention fixes a situation.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Visit the person you love the most. Be patient with a reluctant lover. Stand on your own two feet and be responsible.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Don't take anything for granted. Hold on tight to your magnificent dreams. You may be happier in a different setting.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Someone's illness will upset your plans. A memory rises up and affects a relationship. Somebody you know will leave the scene too soon.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
An optimistic guy will give you some hope. Be prepared to travel in an instant. Ensure that a phone bill has been paid.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Someone's devotion is strong and true. Don't be astounded by outrageous rules. Be kind to strangers while in transit.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A friend has a temper tantrum. A career benefit isn't as certain as it should be. Don't break the spell that's cast by someone you love.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A demanding deceiver will make concessions. Being assertive has a big pay off. It's easy to fall in love with the star of the show.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A sentimental guy makes an impossible promise, and then breaks it. Look out the window to see a surprising event. Pay attention to a casual offer.

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This day in history

DEC. 1, 1864: In his State of the Union Address President Abraham Lincoln reaffirms the necessity of ending slavery as ordered ten weeks earlier in the Emancipation Proclamation.
DEC. 1, 1918: The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (later known as the Kingdom of Yugoslavia) is proclaimed.
DEC. 1, 1955: American Civil Rights Movement: In Montgomery, Alabama, seamstress Rosa Parks refuses to give her bus seat to a white man and is arrested for violating the city's racial segregation laws, an incident which leads to the Montgomery Bus Boycott.
DEC. 1, 1981: The AIDS virus is officially recognized.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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